



## Dawn Traveler

Dawn Traveler is a Korean Online Novel written by War God Weed-nim.

### Story:

Yeonwoo, ever since he was born he was able to read the minds of others. Then one day when he was sleeping, he was born again in a different universe as Jiss. This world full of magic and adventures forced him to live a completely different life as he did in the 'real world'. Everytime he fell asleep in one world, he traveled to another.....

I picked up this project after the translator at Royal Road Weed Blogspot dropped the project. You can also find the earlier chapters (1&2) on their site. I have edited chapters 1 and 2 slightly on my blog for more continuity and clarity. They help me get started with some Korean raws. They are located at [royalroadl.com](http://royalroadl.com).

I have absolutely no ownership of this light novel, you can show support for the author there.

He also wrote Moonlight Sculptor, my favorite light novel.

Source: <http://novel.munpia.com/27166>

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<https://koongkoongtranslations.wordpress.com/dawn-traveler/>

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# Two Births

# Part 1

Yeonwoo was able to hear the thoughts of others since the moment he was born.

The first person's thought he heard belonged to a nurse.

"Such a dignified handsome boy!"

-He's wrinkly. It's common courtesy to tell them that he looks handsome.  
(Zix: This is the nurse's inner thought)

When he was a baby he did not understand very well so it wasn't such a big deal.

The young mother and child spent the majority of their time together.

"Yeonwoo. Come and say mom. Mom!"

Lying on the floor with his mother and having a happy conversation, those were the best times.

"In life, there are many pretty and good people in the world. The world is large and there are plenty of things to see. Yeonwoo, when you can walk, let's go around the world together. Ok?"

The baby heard the next door neighbor's thoughts.

-Yum. The smell of coffee. This is the happiest time of the day. This coffee mix is the best.

"Uuah?"

But such thoughts were not always heard.

"Eat your yummys. You need to so you can keep growing."

-Lets skip out on school. Yes...!

"Okay, now lift up your butt."

This was an experience that he didn't often feel, mom was changing his diapers.

-Huuuu..... This month's diaper bill... Even though I am trying to use less, the living expense is still huge.

'Money. Cost of living?'

As time passed he slowly started to learn the language and understand their thoughts.

This was sometimes depressing!

'The world is so-so I guess.'

In the mind of a child, this was a very difficult thought to comprehend.

He ate his food, was taken to sleep, and thoughts kept pouring through constantly!

When he concentrated, he could hear the thoughts of the other people in the apartment.

-This month's secret.....my wife won't notice right?

-This man's house should be somewhere around here. If I catch him he's dead.

-I want to go fishing. I want to go fishing. I want to go fishing.

-I want to buy a speaker. Heh, to enjoy life as a bachelor. Let's see, 120,000 won (rough 120 dollars) monthly expenses, should I use it all?

Listening and understanding what the other people thought, the child's mind matured faster than other children.

There were many thoughts about jobs, leading to a dismal attitude being created.

'Men are all like that. Hmm....pure innocence in life is not helpful.'

Storybooks were not believable, there was certainly no Santa Claus. This was quite formidable for a six-year old to realize this.

When he began attending the daycare, the thoughts of other children could be heard.

-Strawberry milk.....I'm so thirsty.

-It's mine. My toy!

-I'm sleepy...I'm sleepy...I'm....

-Weeeeeeehhhhhhhhhh!!1!

Simple minded children!

Yeonwoo was standing near the window was deep in thought.

In life there were many things that he could not do. Nevertheless, listening to the other's thoughts, he was more mature.

When in contact, thoughts could be read more easily.

If he was in contact, he could even read memories.

Overall life can be rough, even with just one person's life memories Yeonwoo's mind was able to grow quickly.

Two Births

(part 2)

Yeonwoo observed people and learned about life.

-One should not blindly believe in a person. The heart holds many secrets.

-Oh my god! Because of a friend our teacher's 2 years salary all was lost. The saying 'even between friends you shouldn't lend out money' is actually true. I shouldn't even lend my toys. Even the toys could be lost.



-If you were to follow the trend in life, studying is the easiest way. Another way is developing skills.

Also, he became very curious about his future life.

"Life goal..."

Being a man should give a head start to being an adult.

"What should I do in the future."

I wish I had power and money. If I don't have it I won't be able to have the toys that I want.

With his dad and mom, an 8 year old brother, his 6 year old self, a 4 year old younger brother and a 3 year old sister, they were a large harmonious family.

Of course the siblings quarreled everyday over the toys and the snacks, but nonetheless they were close.

With Yeonwoo it made a total of 4 children. Everyday mom and dad worried about living expenses, creating a heavy atmosphere that could be felt within the household.

"Popularity with women.....chuuuuk!"

Yeonwoo looked closely in the mirror at his face and body.

"Ahem. At least I look okay."

The thoughts of adults about height and skin meant he knew how sensitive the topic was.

As he was still a child, he didn't have sleek chin or high nose and if he took care of his face in the future he would look average.

'Frankly I need to grow well because being a little better looking than average will be better'

Yeonwoo was listening to adult women's thoughts and for majority of them they thought about paying early attention to their skin care.

Yeonwoo thought like adults unlike a child!

As I looked into the mirror and contemplated on establishing a long-term plan for the future.

"Unfortunately, I need to eat well to grow well. As I grow, I need to never have an unbalanced diet."

'In the future, as I grow up, I need to study in moderation. Even though studying is not going to be my whole life, hearing other people's thoughts everyday might make life become easier'

'I should at least get into Seoul National University. Apparently its not

that hard from other people's thoughts about it.' (Zix: this is Korea's equivalent of Harvard lol)

In the apartment above there lived a smart girl that ranked in the mock SAT scores at 10th place.

-Heh, I just need to study a little more before I go to sleep. Studying is really easy. Especially solving mathematical problems makes time go pass even faster. I'm so happy!

After he heard her thoughts he was certain that he would have fun and it would be easy to study.

'I don't want to search here and there so I'll just go to Seoul University. Learning two or three foreign languages is good for work right?'

'The goal of my school life is at least get to Seoul National University.'

'I need at least start there so I can become a boss.'

A Company President!

If the company is too large there will be too much to do. It will be better if it's a decent size.

'About 5000 billion won annual income. With at least this amount of money you will have enough to eat and won't live an uncomfortable life. If I need more money I can always work more.'

While playing with his toys in the Nursery, he was still intently thinking. He and others were different in many ways.

Reading the thoughts of many people, one could know the intentions of others.

As a child he didn't talk, or fully understand, but he understood enough of the other person's thoughts and moved first.

-It happened again. How did he know I was just about to breastfeed?

He deliberately pretended that he didn't know anything about his strange behavior.

If an ordinary kid revealed that they had special ability it is almost guaranteed that the public will disclose the information.

"Eeyho" (Zix: random baby sound)

Still, Yeonwoo was happy. As time passed, he had an extra advantage over other people and he liked having a secret of his own.

Remember, if you are reading thoughts you will have an advantage over many others.

Even taking a test will be easy, even in a company fitting in with a disagreeable boss, it will all be easy.

I could also know the specific desired amount of money another company wants for a deal, I will also know what kind of present I got.

However many troublesome thoughts distracted him

-I am hungry. I want to eat food.

-I want to play with Heejin in the sandcastle. Heejin always wants to play with Yeonwoo.

-I miss my mom. wahhhhhh.

-Robot, I want a robot, robot, robot, robot.

He had to continually hear the loud bustling thoughts of the Kindergarten kids.

Two Births

(part 3)

‘Eugh. So annoying.’

Yeonwoo, for a while felt a strong pressure. His eyes could not open and his body wouldn’t move the way he wanted.

‘Where is this? I thought I was sleeping....’

He heard that insomnia patients can’t fall asleep easily.

‘I think it’s because I’m starting to do multiplication study, that’s why. Definitely the 6 year old course is a bit difficult.’

Yeonwoo felt comfortable and slowly started to fall asleep in his

thoughts.

Calmly and peacefully sleep deeply so that tomorrow can be a exhilarating day.

Just because I am a child doesn't mean I don't have worries, I need to have physical and mental strength to play with my friends.

'The children are really too noisy. For many of them I don't know what they are talking about.'

The sleeping became more suffocating. And his body felt like it was being sucked away somewhere by a force. The dream felt too vivid and real.

Yeonwoo finally felt like it was a severe crisis.

This was not a normal day. Of course, there was no such thing as a common day for him

.

'Is this an abduction? Mom I will not eat chocolate for a week. Please save me!'

Somewhere, the winds could be felt passing through his legs.

'Its cold.....'

Outside the cold air and the coolness of the area could be felt.

'This feels really real.'

And someone grab and pulled Yeonwoo out strongly. His body came out of the cramped but cozy place. Yeonwoo suddenly had a hunch.

'Have I been born again?'

Strangely he still had the memories intact about when he was born.

Taking the first step towards the world was making him anxious and afraid.

For some reason the body has a natural instinct to look for the mother.

Since the first time he was born everything seemed so much alike.

'Why would I? How come? I am not some shopping good that needs to be exchanged...have I been exchanged or returned home?'

Yeonwoo didn't know the reason but was trying to act clever. The majority of children like him would have bellowed out a loud cry.

Yet he tried to turn his head which it did not move well trying to find his mother and father.

"Owang. OOooooooooowang." (crying of a baby)

Shwingggggggggggg (sound of something flying.)

'What this? This feels gross.'

Moving his heavy head was hard but he saw something flying towards him.

'What's that?...Its getting awfully close.It seems to be rotating.'

Soon he realized what it was.

One long, deep blue axe!

"Ohh Waaaaa!"

He shouted in a loud heartfelt scream.

Clash! The axe was repelled after hitting a sword.

"Heukkeek?"

Yeonwoo is born a second time in an unknown underground area.

There was a torch that was surrounded, in the torchlight was a party of five people who were fighting a strange green monster.

A crossbow is fired, a strange fireball spirit traveled, a plate of iron drilled and a stream of water flowed towards the monster. The party was trying to protect the women that was giving birth from the monster.

They were talking to each other in a different language that Yeonwoo did not understand. Even though he could not interpret it, he had a rough idea of their inner thoughts.



-Why was he born right now?

-It's not really my fault. You guys were the ones who wanted to go exploring.

-There no place to hide, if you have said in advance that she would be giving birth we wouldn't have come.

The monster quickly were finished off.

Children in the Republic of Korea in their early stages of life can sometimes see a common couple fight!

'Even though I am a bit weird to have a dream about it in a magic world.'

Yeonwoo moved his heavy head, moving his eyes so he could look at the people.

There was a man dressed in armor which was a combination of leather and iron, on his back rested a bow. The costume was a combination of a hunter and a warrior.

The middle-age man wearing a robe, with a wave of his hand a strange magic would shoot out of his hands and fly towards the monsters.

Then there was a pretty girl with a black skin that was the color of chocolate, a dark elf who could summon spirits.

And a small bearded dwarf who wielded a sharp axe.

Together with the woman giving birth it was a total of five people.

‘They are pretty.’

Yeonwoo laughed whenever the spirits went by.

Water spirits were pretty, exposed ladies. As the spirits busily moved around the water dripped on his face.

Yeonwoo’s scruffy face was washed by a warm clean cloth.

“Gueeett!”

The damaged monsters fought for a while but were exposed and stepped back.

‘They’re leaving. The fight looks like an epic battle in a movie...’

The woman watched Yeonwoo and breastfed him.

“Oheoung!”

In Yeonwoo’s mouth, milk came out of the breast.

Its not even strawberry milk, chocolate milk, or banana milk but breastfeeding!

'This tastes good. This isn't a dream right?'

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On the expedition they defeated monsters, sometimes the dwarf went ahead to disable a trap. His hands moved nimbly as if he has done it often. (Zix: remember this line for volume 4 lol)

-Quickly, let's go.

-The child was just born wouldn't it be better if we turned around?

-We came here taking a risk only to loiter around? The next time we come around someone may have visited.

-I am okay with it.

-I think we are almost there, keep going.

Yeonwoo did not understand the story that was shared between them yet.

After his belly was full, push came to shove and he almost fell asleep.

'I can't sleep. Even if you were to get taken by a tiger, you have to keep your senses sharp. Though, I can't do anything even if i stay away.'

Even though he was sleepy he forced himself to watch the exploration.

Yeonwoo was riding piggy-back on thr dark elf.

The human warrior Rendall and the priest Laurelle were a couple. The magician Heresh liked to talk and the dwarf always liked to drink beer at

the end of every battle.

Yeonwoo continually tried to grasp the situation.

-The child is not going to sleep.

-In such a place it's even difficult for a child to sleep. I'll attend to him carefully though out -the trip even if a battle breaks out and I move wildly. He'll fall asleep quickly.

-I am glad he doesn't cry. He won't stimulate the monsters and the group doesn't have to worry.

-By the way are there items nearby?

-When they viewed the map it seems we were almost there.

-After this I need to quickly go back and do work soon.

The women that gave birth to Yeonwoo was chanting a prayer and there was a constant light casted upon her.

When exposed under the light, the wounds of any injured people would heal, the monsters shivered in fear when they saw it.

'Its more quick and effective than the shots in the hospital.'

Yeonwoo was amazed, but even more than the healing, it was the magic and spirits that interested him.

'Each time they use it I can feel a strange feeling. I think there is some strange energy related to it.'

Wrapped up on the back of the dark elf, he was enjoying the atmosphere of magic and spirits.

When hungry he drank milk from his mother Laurelle, while exploring the dungeon together.

The party moved at twice the pace of ordinary people .

‘What is their identity?’

Yeonwoo was very curious regarding them.

Dungeons were full of monsters and traps and this time, they walked into this extremely smelly one.

Finally, after all their suffering, they arrived at their destination.

There was a large coffin with a jewel embedded into it, and the knight’s armor was displayed in the room with it.

In the other room there was considerable amount of gold and magic items piled up in a heap.

-Finally we are here.

-Indeed it is Count Roheduran’s Dungeon.

-No need to wait any longer we should gather it quickly.

-Grab all the money and let’s get out of here. We don’t have to worry about money for a good while.

A manly warrior, a magician that could cast magic while jumping, dwarf who can disable traps, the dark elf who could accurately shoot arrows far away, and the mother priest!

They opened their packs and put the items in it.

Yeonwoo was finally able to determine the identities of his parents.

'Ah. So they're tomb robbers!'

# Life of Two Minds

# Part 1

Yeonwoo returned to his reality.

After living as an infant, drinking breast milk and sleeping for a few days, he once more found himself awake in his bed.

"Hurry up and eat your breakfast. You need to go to kindergarten." his mother called out to him.

"Yes, Mother!"

Yeonwoo called back.

Yeonwoo could know that he had come back to the mundane reality upon hearing the word 'kindergarten'.

"Huuuu..."

At the table, his older brother and younger sister were already sitting. His older brother, who was a first grader in an elementary school now, finished his meal first and headed out first.

It was easy to think that the eldest son would be the special one but truthfully, there's wasn't much of a difference between them. All he did at school was eat, play, and drool while he fell asleep during break.



'I wasn't feeling well, was that why I had a strange dream? Will my mom not even bring me some sort of restorative herb to help me?' And to think that I am younger than the rest of these kids who aren't even toilet trained... I was shocked my head was too heavy to lift.'

"Nom Nom"

He also helped his younger siblings eat. Of course, his parents were watching him.

"Our Yeon Woo is so kind."

"Honey. Why don't you give him some pocket money so he can buy himself a hotdog or something?"

"Yeonwoo, would you like some allowance?"

"Yes!"

When reading the minds of my parents, they would usually end up thinking along the same.

–I don't need anything. Just grow up healthy and strong.

–My son, my lovely son.

Yeonwoo felt guilty peeping into their pure and loving hearts.

Since the minds of his parents were pretty much the same, he could pocket some easy money by doing something praise-worthy.

Yeoneoo didn't have to be worried sick for a long time.

'Well, that is life...'

At the early age of six years old he already understood his reality.

Still, he could not think of his parents too easily. As they won't always view him as an innocent child forever.

Especially if they started conversing with other families, things will become more dangerous.

"Your children seem so smart, looks like they will do well in their studies."

"He looks smart... When did he start learning English?"

Eventually, my parents will start thinking things like:

—Is our kid a genius? We should give him early education if he is...

–Having him start learning English earlier even by a year will help him, right?

–To get him to go to a good college, he needs to attend several prep schools while still in elementary school.

Yeonwoo sighed deeply.

“Sometimes its better not to know.”

“Huh?” His little sister asked.

“Nothing. You don’t need to know.”

“Mom. Dad. I’m going to kindergarten now.”

Yeonwoo had deliberately called out his mother first.

This was because he knew that snacks and allowances mostly came from his mother.

As for the time he spent while he was at kindergarten, time flew by as he, well, caused a bit of trouble, played doctor, played with toys, and sled down a slide with his friends.

‘Today has also been a plain day. When will I finally become an adult?’

At that moment Lee Heejin came over smiling broadly.

"Yeonwoo, you know. Can I come over to your house to play with my parents next week? I'll bring lots of chocolate you also like."

Her hair was braided neatly and she spoke sweetly, so this kind of request would've worked on any average children.

However, Yeonwoo strongly refused.

"No. Its too early for that right now between us!"

"Huh?" she asked.

As he read others thought and memories, he saw too many sides of society.

'I need to grow up quickly and drink lots of beer... Smoking is bad, so I shouldn't even start it. I'll be able to meet lots of pretty girls when I go to nightclubs at night. As a man, I should have some vigor!'

A man living in apartment 1103, sometimes had some interesting inner thoughts.

'A hero having several girlfriends is not a flaw. Although I am having an affair, I am also in love.... Humans need to live life with love.'

Maybe not as much as that man, but he shouldn't live chained to only one girl at the age of 6!

After coming back from preschool, he ate dinner and went to bed early.

'Will I dream again tonight? It's fun because it's not as mundane as my current reality is, but...'

After dreaming of being reborn in a different world, he always felt as if he was being dragged somewhere else by destiny.

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Once more in the other world, Yeonwoo left the count's tomb piggy-backed on Grona's back, which he originally thought was a dungeon.

The parents and their comrades safely returned home with hordes of treasures.

Like most babies, he couldn't assist and had nothing to do. All Yeonwoo could do, was blink, eat, and sleep.

He wanted to go play outside, however his place was the bed nearest to the fireplace.

*Yawn!*

Yeonwoo's mouth stretched open to release a big yawn.

'Even in this world, a baby's life is so boring. It's not really something you'd want to go through again. Fortunately, at least, there is a lot to see inside the house.'

Father Rendall had a very well developed body. It was a well defined, and it was a muscular body that both men and women admired.

As he beat down the monsters, he presented a thrilling scene with his swordsmanship that was well balanced in both power and speed.

Mother Laurelle had a very slim figure, To be honest, it was quite an unbelievable figure to have for a woman who had only just given birth to me not long ago.

Laurelle whispered tenderly to him while he was in his bed.

"My baby. You've had a difficult time right? Now that we're home you can take a nice long break and relax."

"Mother is so happy that I can hold you now..." she finished while lovely caressing his face.

Well, that was what Yeonwoo was guessing that was what she had said.

He wasn't reading her mind as he didn't like to read other people's minds too often, this was mainly because he got tired very quickly if he did.

When he ate, he got sleepy. When he woke up, he got hungry.

As such, he spent most of his time sleeping and identifying the atmosphere around the house.

'First, I need to learn to talk...'

Time continued to fly by as all he did was eating and sleeping.

As three months passed on by, he slowly began to understand a few fragments of the words which were often spoken around him.

But most of the words spoken by the Wizard Hereseh, were impossible for him to understand.

He often spoke to himself using words that no one else used.

"The opposite characteristics of Mana... Overcoming opposing force... Using forced combination... Forming a whirlwind... Bonding in constraint... In order to pursue greater magic that are certain uncertainties."

Sometimes, Hereseh would go down to the basement after muttering to himself while he reads a book by the fireplace and not come back for a while.

Yeonwoo kept his eyes and ears open and tried to learn the language through him.

A baby learning the magic language... Any sort of parents would hold their arms wide open in joy and welcome this kind of early education!

'Uwaaa~ This is hard. Very hard.'

Yeonwoo licked his lips in concentration.

'What kind of a language is this for it to be so long and have so many various combinations of words? Its meaning is completely different from what I learned one month ago too.'

Unfortunately, he wasn't properly learning how to use magic, he was just learning the meanings of the words that were being used.

Sometimes, when Hereseh would hold him, he would get to look into his mind and watch spectacular scenes of him battling with magic unfold before him.

-You can drastically reduce casting speed by dealing with three types of mana simultaneously...



'Is this the power that he used when he fought the monsters?'

As he looked at Hereseh he became more and more curious of the unknown.

Rendall mainly used physical ability, but Hereseh used magic.

He felt a deep inner explosive flow. He could see a mysterious aura flowing outside when magic was used.

'So that's what you call mana? While I do want to learn how to use magic too, but...'

Compared to the complex magic, spirit magic was much more simple.

When Dark Elf Grona called upon her friendly spirits, they would appear, clean up the house, and keep the fire burning at a perfect temperature.

'Its like giving errands to his brothers.'

However, unless he was an elf, he would have to be born with a good innate ability with spirits.

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In Yeonwoo's dream, nine months had already passed.

It wasn't like he went there every other day, so he also matured in reality.

Curiously though, not a lot of time flew by in the real world no matter how much time he spent in his dream world.

'This is nice.'

Yeonwoo was still a little troubled trying to understand the new language of his dream world self.

Besides eating and sleeping, he would listen to people's conversations.

It'll be a bit unsuitable to call it a 'superior language learning ability' and standing out too much could be dangerous, and danger laid everywhere.

Since he may not even know the reason in his dying moment, he tried his best learning the language.

On the other hand, since he was a baby, he tried not to show others that he could understand their conversations. Of course, with the ability to read other peoples minds, he was proficient in it.

"Do you the remember map we used last time? I was looking at the terrain; don't you think there will be a couple of huge tombs on this side of the valley? The sunlight comes through, and the water has all dried up, so it no longer flows."

"Hopefully there is a high-ranking nobles tomb. There's not nearly enough gold in a mediocre tomb."

"Since it was a land of the Lewis Kingdom, I'm sure hope we can find a royal tomb and scrape in a lot."

Yeonwoo was also thinking about his future in this world.

'I don't need to go to school... Perhaps, continuing the family business is popular in this world?'

Tomb robbing was considered to be highly-profitable job in this world.

They don't need to pay taxes, and it was through one's own ability that you're rewarded.

Since being born into this world, Yeonwoo had already gone on nine

tomb explorations while riding on Grona's back.

As he was Rendall and Laurel only child, he hasn't met any other children yet.

They said that it was dangerous to leave the child behind because of low public order.

They didn't always get treasures. They would barge into a den of monsters and to kill them just to not return empty handed.

Unfortunately, even if they sold monsters' parts or their swords and armors, they wouldn't gain much because those things lack value due to their low quality.

Sometimes, they would be faced with danger several times while exploring tombs.

Fighting monsters with swords and arrows happened all too often, and every now and then a colossal boulder would roll down in attempt to kill them all.

There were even times when hot molten metal was poured at the front of their feet.

Finding skeletons of former tomb raiders who had entered the tomb before them was as easy as finding a burger shop on the streets of the real world.

"Gwaaak!"

"Kakakaka!"

Whenever Yeonwoo went inside the tomb he would scream heartily.

Entering a tomb was an especially horrifying experience, you wouldn't get at any other place. It was like entering a ghost house, only worse.

The larger the tombs were, the more traps, monsters, and strange creatures there were.

Knives, arrows and axes flew around like toys being thrown in a storm.

"I think the baby is a bit terrified."

"No way... He won't know about a thing since he's still too young."

"Lets cover his eyes just in case..."

Unfortunately, things were far more terrifying when his eyes were covered with cloth linen.

*Saka Saka*

*Shaaaaakk*

As he definitely heard some kind of sounds...

He shrunk in on himself, just like you expect someone to do while watching a horror movie.

All he could smell was the sickening smell rotting corpse and other

things best left not described.

As the hours dragged on, even the sound of water a droplet dropping from a high place made him scared and flinch.

Yeonwoo felt his gut dropping when he heard an arrow go whizzing on by from somewhere.

It seems that the human imagination sometimes created it's own great horror show.

*Tink*

"Uh-oh, that sounded like some kind of trap went off....ahk! The ceiling is collapsing!"

"Run, Grona, RUN!!"

"Okay. I'll go on ahead and scout out to see if this is connected to the next trap."

The Dark Elf, Grona, zigzagged through the collapsing rocks while carrying Yeonwoo on her back.

"Kwaaak!"

What absurd speed and extreme nimbleness!

Vibration and ringing sound of when the rocks come crashing down to the ground.

Yeonwoo experienced with his whole body how not being able to see can be more scary.

'If I don't think about it, I should be okay.. Thinking about it only makes it more terrifying, so let's not even imagine it. Right now, I'm at home, playing with toys. It's noisy around me, but nothing is happening..'

*Kaboom!*

"The ground is splitting apart! Be careful!"

"Poison stingers on the floor too!"

"Gyaaaak!"

Grona was suddenly falling to the ground, but had narrowly escaped by stepping on the rock chunks that were falling.

Then she consecutively dodged flying spears by nimbly jumping away from them. Thankfully, Dark Elves have a unique vision and sleek body movement.

Even though Grona perfectly landed, she couldn't dodge the warm water trickling down her back.

"Oh my. I think the baby peed himself."

"ewwwanng ewaaang!"

Yeonwoo felt embarrassed and, after a long pause, pretended to cry.

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## Part 2

Yeonwoo had finally turned two years old in the dream world.

Over time, he had slowly become able to control how to come and go in 'reality' and this 'dream' world.

He'd learned of the method by coming and going several times over the course of the two years, this was mostly because he couldn't move his body freely when he was an infant.

Unless his mental or physical fatigue wasn't too severe, he now wouldn't be forced back over to the other 'reality'.

However, even if he became very tired, he could stay in the dream world by resting up via a form of meditation.

'No matter what, I'll stay here like this right now.'

Pretty much, If he wanted to stay in the 'dream' world he needed a strong will to do so.

On the other hand, if he wanted go to the 'real' world, he just had to go to sleep while thinking that.

With this, he was able to come and go somewhat freely, imagining that

he has body on the both sides.

He was staying in the 'dream' world purely out of interest.

When Rendall and Laurelle went out to do the family business, they put him on Grona's back; even though it scared him he could experience as an adventure and it was by far more fun.

Whereas, in the 'real' world, he would come back from kindergarten, do my homework, and then go to sleep in the other world.

The most fun I've experienced in the real world would be when I was watching an anime on TV without crossing my parents or my siblings.

He'll be attending school for another 10 years. Even if he is somewhat enjoying his school life, the life in the 'real' world wasn't that special or overly exciting.

Compared to the 'dream' world where life and death could be decided in a split second, the 'real' world was much more boring.

'There's no good anime to watch after Egg-seller Pucca finished...'

Although life-and-death situation happened often, fear and horror was for a moment, replaced with more vitality in his daily life.

Finally, he could toddle around and freely touch things while in a damp dungeon .

He could even pick up poisonous centipedes when Randell and Laurelle weren't looking and throw them far away.

As he spent more time in the dream world, his mental age got older as well.

Unfortunately, what could be considered a side effect was that he lost interest in playing with his kindergarten friends more and more.

Growing boys often get into arguments over something petty, and even when something 'major' happened, it was usually only on the level of nosebleed.

"Haaa," he sighed. "At least cut off an arm, leg or snap the spine in half. This is boring..."

As they explored tombs, his courage continued to grow more and more as he became more used to them.

In fact, he had gotten so used to a monster throwing a gigantic rock at them, it was now like eating meal at the table.

The only way he could chase away the drowsiness after a 'meal' would be something like having a humongous axe come crazily flying through the air and brush by his neck.

"Burp"

'Ahhhh, I ate well. Finally I feel like I can digest.'

He realized that moments of crisis never really came up with Rendall, Laurelle, and Grona. This was probably thanks to their advanced adventurer skills.

However, Yeonwoo also realized how easy it was for people died here.

In this world there was no such thing as vaccinations.

One can die from a disease, and have one's family or friends killed by monsters.

People would grieve sincerely, but they would stand up once again and live on with hope in their hearts.

It can be viewed as having an active and positive attitude toward life, but it also meant that people were used to seeing and accepting death.

Laurelle held onto Yeonwoo and talk to him,

"My child, should we go to the market?"

Yeonwoo had already fully come to understand the language of this world by this point.

But his understanding of Hereseh's complex magic language was still far from perfect. Even though he hadn't yet heard of the high-class language of the nobles, it was not a problem in everyday conversation.

"Kyaaaaa!"

Yeonwoo raised both hands and smiled as if he thought anywhere was fine with him.

He was pretending to not understand language perfectly.

Laurelle, tricked by this slu little baby, smiled widely at him.

"Good Jiss. You're going to continue being a good boy and become a great person, aren't you?"

Held in Laurelle's arms, Yeonwoo headed to the market.

Since it was dangerous with all the horses and carriages speeding by, he was usually held in his mother's arms when he was brought outside.

In this world he was called Jiss.

He was named after a legendary adventurer, Jiss Ballanda.

According to Father Rendall, there was a rumor, passed down in secret amongst his line of work, that Jiss Ballanda was actually a tomb raider.

Showing off treasures gotten from digging a tomb makes one a adventurer; Selling them in secret made you a tomb raider.

'Anyways there are a lot of interesting things around here.'

After arriving at the market with his mother, he was busy looking around.

There were lots of items being bought and sold at the market, including magical items, and stall traders called out to passing shoppers.

"Ukihil, would you like an apple?"

"Various kinds of mushrooms. They tastes great when made into a soup~!"

He saw many short, green-skinned merchants. They were from the Prikae clan of Marka continent merchants.

Exceptional at controlling wild mustang and have an exceptional endurance level, they don't even get tired even after walking all day.

They had an extremely sensitive sense of smell with which gave them the ability to detect monsters at a distance. This made them choose to be merchants rather than taking on other jobs in the city.

"Oh. Were there such pretty earrings?"

It seems you have good eyes for madam! These earrings were made by the dwarves that came from over from Kederun Mt. and are considered rare items indeed!"

"Really?"

"I've been doing business around these parts for almost ten years now. Trust me and look around."

Laurelle showed interest in the jewelry.

Jiss read his mind.

-Kehehe. I've got her! Sure, these were made by a dwarf, however, it was something they threw away and I picked up. Its so easy to fool humans.

Even though Jiss knew this trader was lying, he didn't give Laurelle a warning.

We're talking about a woman's desire for jewelries here after all...

It's more important to get what they want if they think that it will look nice on them. Besides, If she didn't get what she wanted, she'll just sulk.

Just like when Yeonwoo did not get his toy robot in the real world!

‘In life, you need to get what you want. Even if it ends up being useless...’

Even though all through the year he gathered information from both worlds, it hasn't amount to a lot, although his ability to read minds made him empathize easily with others.

Laurelle bought the trinket, meat and vegetables, and bought some fruits that the Elves cultivated.

His family's business was doing financially well at the moment, so the chances of having momentary problems were low...

Not to mention that their secret basement storage, with magic protection was full of shiny gold coins!

It is incomparable to landlords who collect taxes or high nobles who own vast farm, but they were pretty successive bunches amongst the commoners.

‘There is a strict caste system here in this world. Even though they have excellent skills, it is hard to receive recognition for them. On the other hand if you have a talent to be a grave robber, you get different treatment. You would not have a recession either. Just how many Kings/Queens and other nobles die each every year and are buried all over the entire continent?’

The grave robbing business wasn't affected by such things like natural disasters such as droughts and floods.



More often than not, instead of destroying the business, a flood will often show a new entrance to a long forgotten tomb.

However it is extremely dangerous and of course you can die to monsters in horrific ways, not to mention that if you're ever discovered you will be pursued by soldiers!

While Jiss was sucking on the sweet fruit that Laurelle bought him, they continued around the market.

There was always a lot to see when just stepping out of the house.

Merchants and residents looked to the east.

"The Tyrant Isla will hunt again today."

"Tch, tch. One never knows which animal will get caught this time....."

"We need to be careful not to get eaten as well."

Far beyond the castle walls, there were large black dots flying in the sky.

They were: Wyverns, the lords of the sky!

It was nearly impossible to hunt the flying Wyvern unless you were one of the few high-ranking magicians in the Kingdom, or a spirit master.

Wyverns were well known to have almost impenetrably hard skin, were extremely fast, and very ferocious in nature.

Thank goodness that they never really attacked the city thanks to fields and plains filled with more than enough easy pray for them to chew on.

Jiss watched the Wyverns from the safety of Laurelle's arms.

'It looks really ferocious and scary. If I could ride those how great would it be?'

For a split second Yeonwoo and the Wyvern met eye to eye.

Even though it was a long distance from him, the Wyvern had excellent eyesight and it could see without a problem.

'I wonder what it's thinking of when looking at me.'

Jiss read the Wyvern's thoughts out of curiosity.

-What a plump and delicious looking young human...

He should've stopped reading its mind here. But, thanks to his continuing curiosity was the fault.

-I just want to put him all in my mouth and eat him, yum yum...

In this world, Jiss was the perfect size of a snack for monsters.

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In the real world Yeonwoo had just turned 7 years old.

There was a big difference between being a 6 year old and a 7 year old.

He'll be attending the kindergarten for just one more year, and he'll begin for real starting with the elementary school.

Unfortunately, Yeonwoo had read a few elementary school students in grades 5 or so, and they often complained about missing kindergarten. The sin is to know.

-Good times. Mom probably don't even nag you to study either.

-Ah. I once was like that too.

There was great difference between mindlessly playing in the kindergarten and formally attending a school.

When you become a senior in an elementary school, you'll be stressed from all of the pressure of trying to get into a good middle school, and it will only get worse the older you become, next you will get stressed while waiting to hear about future admissions and eventually getting a job.

Growing from a child to an adult, aging was obviously not a welcomed process!

"Still, I need to try and enjoy the moment. Afterall, time gone by will not come back!"

Yeonwoo had decided to spend his life of 7 year old with mature mindset.

In the 'dream' world, he still had lots to see, but he couldn't do much with due to his restricted ability to move as a baby; However, in this world where he can move around freely, he had lots to do now.

"How should I play to not regret playing?" he wondered aloud.

Over time, as he picked up many words, he used a lot of unchildish words.

Because he had read various thoughts of adults, he didn't have a restricted point-of-view, and had many different perspectives when looking at things.

Sometimes Wizard Hereseh told him philosophical stories, and his words were right the more he thought of.

The mental age of Yeonwoo, who has accumulated a total of 9 years, thanks to both his real life and his dream life. Plus, his life experience was

also special.

There was quite a difference in the way of thinking compared to the other kindergarteners.

He could outwit the other kindergarteners and easily convince them to play the way he wanted.

"Yeonwoo, let's stack a tower."

"I don't want to..... You're better at it than I am."

"Still, can't we play stack the tower together? I wanted to befriend you and so I came over intentionally."

"It's obvious that I'll lose, but if I do stack the tower first, will you give me your toy robot?"

"Yes!"

A moment after.

"WAhhh....wahhh!"

Yeonwoo's tower was taller than the other's tower.

Poor gullible kindergarteners!

Even at the house, his 2 years old older brother did not look that mature to him.

‘I am finally at the same age.’

The more time he spent in the other world, the more the differences grew.

It was because Yeonwoo was experiencing twice of what others usually do.

Yeonwoo had to look after his younger brother, who still has a runny nose, and his cute little sister, who tries to give him her candy first whenever she gets a delicious candy, with great responsibility.

“Yeon-Taejin. Yeon-Yuril. What are your future dreams?”

Because he thought a lot, his pronunciation had gotten better as he attended kindergarten.

“A scientist!”

“I want to be....a language teacher.”

“Wow, those are great dreams! Tell you what, I’ll help you with your dreams, so believe in me and do what I tell you.”

"Yes sir, big brother."

"Yes sir!"

Even though they won't remember later, Yeonwoo decided to at least look after his siblings. Wouldn't that be what a family does.

"Brother, do you want some candy?"

"My teeth will rot so I decided to quit candy. Do you have any chocolate?"

"I have a chocolate that I received from a guy!"

"A girl receiving chocolate like that is not a good thing. Its all a debt. Debt."

"Next time I won't receive any."

"Hmm. Next time, receive them and then bring them to medbd."

"Yes sir!"

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Yeonwoo, now Jiss.

During the time he traveled between the two worlds, Jiss had turned 3 years old.

They say time flows like water but he had just spent his time rolling on the floor and playing with fire at the fire place.

When he became 3 years old, it was time for him to slowly began to speak and learn the language.

Even if the pronunciation was stuttered, Yeonwoo perfectly understood the language.

"So monstutus adddacted today too!"

The City Terrace, was where Jiss currently lived with his parents. It was a big city, with thick high walls.

At night sometimes hordes of monsters come flocking to the city and a battle begins with the soldiers.

During those exciting times, Jiss would try and watch those battles from slightly opened window.

This was possible thanks to the house being located right on a high hill near the wall, so he was able to watch the battle like watching a night scenery.



Watching fire arrows pouring down from the night sky toward the hordes of monsters below sure was a spectacular scene to behold.

‘There are a lot of monsters today, is it because it harvest season?’

He thought the battle would be ending soon like usual in a moment,

Usually, the stupid monsters retreated, as they unable to get through to the archers on the wall and continued getting slaughter on the ground below.

Of course, if the defenders are defeated and the monsters get past them, the monsters would plunder and destroy the city, but that never really happened.

This was thanks to the armies that periodically went around exterminating large groups of monsters within the kingdom territories, not to mention the thick walls surround the city.

Unfortunately for the villages outside the city, the monster’s were extremely fast breeders as their fertility was quite high, so living in the rural village was quite harsh.

‘There quite a lot. They’re not withdrawing either...’

Firing the fire arrow, the area got lighter.

Jiss wasn't the only child watching, as other children sat near their windows as well.

In this world, the children's' dreams were usually to become a knight, a mercenary, or a magician.

Unless one was a nobleman, having power was the only way to live a better life.

Due to low public order outside the city walls, one has to, know how to protect oneself to leave the city once one was born to be able to travel to a different place.

'These monsters are endlessly coming through. If there are this many monsters it usually means there's a reason why..'

Territory wars often occur between monsters as well.

It is rumored to be said that the clans had their hunting ground and habitat taken away by another strong group, which would often lead to the exiled group to assault the city where humans lived.

Even when the fire arrow continuously fell, a lot of monsters continuously flocked towards the wall.

'Wow there are a lot..'

Jiss could not see well because it was dark, but there seemed to be

more than ten thousands of them with his rough estimation.

The monsters tried to scale over the wall with their sticky hand and feet.

Most of them rarely tried climbing up, this was probably because the archers would shoot arrows at them, and even if they did come up, they were quickly dispatched by the swordsmen waiting for such an attempt.

However, the monsters just kept on gathering from the forest far away.

‘The fight’s going to last all night. Hmm... They look different from the monsters I saw in the dungeons. They look weaker, but there are lots of them.’

Suddenly, there was a large vibration in the ground that began.

*Kaboom*

*Keeeeng*

*Boom*

‘What was that sound?’

The walls were quite a bit distant away. Even though it was dark, the fire arrows that were stuck in the ground all played a role in the lighting.

Something unknown came into Jiss's sight.

It was taller than the walls.

It was a monster that had its whole body made of steel.

"It's... It's a robot!"

Jiss, who was by the window, had his mouth fall open.

The steel monster was massacring the monsters as it moved through them.

With just one swing of its giant sword, it killed hundreds of monsters.

*BOOOOOOOM!*

Even with its huge body, it didn't look like it had trouble moving. It even ran around.

The sword the steel monster was wielding flared up; it now resembled what happened to Rendall when Laurelle enchanted his sword.

Hereseh came and joined him by the window.

"That my boy, is a magic armor."

"Magic ahma?"

"Looks like it's Krueh. They must've summoned it in order to reduce consumption of arrows and sacrifice of soldiers from the continuous stream of the monsters in this attack."

Hereseh continued to tell him about the Magic Armor.

The magic machine that appeared right now is Krueh class!

He said it's a weapon that was created about 350 years ago by humans of the absolutely powerful nation called the 'Gratess Empire' with magical power.

A person embarked to harness the power of mana. Usually, not even a hundreds of knights gathered will be enough to bring down the magic armor.

"Do you want to take a closer look?"

"Yes!"

You might not know because you're still young, but magic has many other uses other than just using it to fight. For example, to observe something far away, Eagle Eye is the best."

Hereseh uttered a magic incantation for him.

It was the incantation Jiss knew well too, 'The Eyes of an Eagle'.

It was considered a basic form of magic, but nevertheless, it was a very useful for noticing the approach of monsters, bandits, or soldiers on an open field.

Manipulating mana, Hereseh casted The Eyes of an Eagle on his and Jiss's eyes. Then, he could clearly see the magic machine far away.

He could even see the symbol of Gratesse continent's of two entwined dragons on the back of Magic Armor.

The monsters shot arrows and swung their swords against it in resistance, but it seemed futile as none of their attacks had any effect.

When the magic armor moved, the monsters around it panicked and tried to flee only to meet their death anyway.

"As expected, normal monsters trying to deal with a magic armor is impossible."

Hereseh also explained that huge wars occurred due to Gratesse Empire trying to conquer the whole continent using these magic machine.

The city Terrace where Jiss was living was part of the eastern region of Gratesse empire.

The reason why his parents robbed the tombs around this region was also because of an expectation of maybe getting their hands on a magic machine.

It's estimated that Grateless Empire currently possesses about 1,400 magic machines, but a more accurate number cannot be known due to it being a military secret.

Magic machines were often lost due to various reasons like power struggles between nobles, who were often known to conspire, bribe, and go to war with each other. It would then be taken away or destroyed in case of a war.

When an Emperor, who was the center of power dies, his own magic machines would sometimes be buried with him.

Presently, when a lot of time had passed since the development of the original magic machines, other Kingdoms try any method in order to obtain a magic machine and disassemble it in order to make something similar to it.

However, no magic machine made by the other Kingdoms of humans could catch up to the performance and efficiency of the original Grateless Empire's magic machine.

Jiss just kept on looking at the magic machine with his mouth hanging open.

'I want it.!'

Hereseh was also thinking of the same thing.

-I want it. I want it. I want it!



## Part 3

Time continued to fly on by, and Yeonwoo eventually turned 8 years old. He didn't do much at the kindergarten that located was near his house, but he had already became old enough to slip on his backpack and go to an elementary school by himself.

"Listen well to your teacher. If anything happens, come and tell Mommy. When other kids bully you don't put up with it, but tell your teacher or mom, ok?"

"Yes. Mother."

Yeonwoo answered obediently before leaving the house. He didn't expect much trouble as an elementary school student.

'To attend school with these little kids with their runny noses.... I want to quickly grow up.'

Combining with the time spent in the another world, he has already lived for about a 11 years.

No matter how bad, in the end it was just an elementary school. If one was to compare to the dungeon exploration, going to a new school was nothing scary compared to the dungeon exploration.

Alternating between two worlds meant that he'll be living twice the

usual life, and would build up an extensive amount of life experience.

“There shouldn’t be any incidents where elementary school kids fight to the bitter end or like chopping off each others head or using magic to burn people like in Marka continent.”

Yeonwoo was a new-coming elementary school student who has already experienced and gone through all sorts of hardships.

As he had expected, nothing major happened while he was at the elementary school.

He went through an ordinary entrance ceremony, met up with friends, who were like innocent sheep, and who were much more docile compared to ones back in Marka continent.

He didn’t think much about studying well, but in the end, he wasn’t bad at it either. To date, he belonged in the mid to upper ranking students.

Technically, he was actually ‘older’ than his other classmates. Plus, he far more of a diverse life experience, so it was easy for him to follow elementary class.

‘This much is perfect for asking mom for more allowance. I shouldn’t do better than my older brother or younger siblings. I have long time ahead for studying...’

He kept a steady 10th place in class .

If he wanted to, he could've read the thoughts of another to cheat and never get caught, but he didn't feel the need to abuse it that way.

"Yeonwoo! Let's go play!"

"I don't wanna."

Even though there were girls who wanted to become friendly with him.

"This is as far as you go. If you cross over then its all going to be mine."

There would be a seat buddy who would act all cheesy toward him.

Elementary school students all played together and sometimes a fight would occur. But if Yeonwoo had a 'friend' that tried to provoke him, he would simply dust himself off and walk away.

What was there to gain from fighting a kid even if you were upset by them?

"Its not like I'll skin their head and pickle it with salt. I can forgive them for this much. If they continue to bother me, I will just have kill them and break their bones."

– Yeonwoo is such a kind natured kid.

–Even though he is still a kid, he already shows respect towards other

students.

His classmates and teachers thought good of him.

When he watched elementary school students play, they just look cute.

"Its a good stage. The present is always the most enjoyable since you don't know what will happen in the future."

He continued to attend elementary school as he leisurely sipped on his strawberry milk.

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Jiss had also grew older and was now 4 years old.

He spent more and more time in Marka continent and had adapted to this reality brilliantly.

Miscellaneous knowledge and experience of the tombs was acquired during all of his family's adventures.

"I heard there lives a wizard in the rural area of Borg..."

"Not a lot of people know about him, but his ability is said to be quite outstanding."

“There’s talk he’s unchallenged in field of Magic Study as well. Although, I have to admit that this is not a rumor to be trusted.”

Jiss listened to Rendall, Hereseh, and Grona’s conversation about business on the side.

Unfortunately, there wasn’t anything for children of commoners to play with.

However, while there wasn’t any toys to play with, Jiss was able to play with the water spirit that Grona summoned.

-Stop harassing me, you little human.

-Uwaha, what a jerk. A real Jerk!

Water spirits became repugnant toward Jiss who kept on bothering them.

They could not exert much power independently and they couldn’t disobey their summoner, so they had to endure the child’s attention.

“We also have to check the last hideout of the magician, it will probably be near his hometown. Which thankfully, is not that far from here.”

A few days later, concluding that it was rewarding enough to be looked into, the party headed toward Borg.

Jiss also joined in the carriage-ridden journeys of his family. Jiss could

join in the journeys they traveled on a carriage.

He had no problem going with them on long journeys, because he had tagged along numerous times in dungeon exploring ever since he was a baby.

Not to mention that there had been times where he'd be on Grona's back who would easily jump over a castle wall.

"I think there was a magic reaction around here..."

After Hereseh searched all over the mountain near the magician's home village, he eventually found the hidden entrance/dungeon that was hidden by an illusion magic.

"Now we'll be able to finish early and return home."

"Let's hurry."

They lit the torch and headed into the cave had been the wizard's hiding place.

Most magicians usually thought the same way, and many of them usually liked underground basements or naturally-formed caves where they can freely research without being discovered.

These preferred places weren't normally too close to towns, and were usually places that were sturdy enough to install a huge research

equipment. They especially like a place that was quiet, and were more than prepared to put up with a few monsters if they hung about.

Of course, tomb raiders or invaders with grudge toward magicians knew this fact, and so magicians liked to hide their entrances with simple sleight of hand trick or illusion magic.

The more skilled a hunter team is, the easier they can see through such illusions and find the hidden magic research data or treasures or artifacts!

"I don't see that many traps. I don't see many monsters either. I'm not sure if it's because this is a small cave though."

"Isn't it also possible that the magician is not as advanced as we had thought?"

"That's not a good sign..."

"Maybe he was confident about his skills. Or, maybe he didn't care if anyone robbed him after he'd died?"

The tomb hunters progressed slowly as they carefully observed the inside of the cave.

They did not hurry through, as they had to carefully disable any magic traps that were in place.

An accident is bound to happen when a job is hurried through.

Nowadays, Jiss often felt more comfortable being in a dungeon rather than being at home eating and playing.

They would often explore underground caverns and tunnels, so he was used to bats and insects flutter and scurrying about.

When he focused, he could even read the minds of the small animals and insects, but it differed greatly depending on their intelligence.

-Quickly go. Forward. Follow.

-Heavvvvvvy...

-Hungry. Scared.

-Where am I? I'm lost...

And of course there were the typical poisonous centipedes and huge rats. Their thoughts were more complex.

-I laid about 4 thousand eggs. The territory of the red ants is getting too big...

-Is there any left over cheese crumbs? Humans are sure good at making food.

Jiss spend away the time reading thoughts of insects and monsters as a hobby.



‘It’s a bit boring at the moment, but I guess I’ll also take part as a tomb raider later after I grow up.’

Eventually when he was old enough to do an adult mans worth of work, he won’t have the time to laze around, so he had to endure.

Sometimes, Jiss wasn’t allowed follow them to the final stages of a dungeon. This was because it was too dangerous for him to be risked as often the strongest monsters traps and were placed at the end.

He waited for them at a safe location after Laurelle laid down some divine protection magic for him.

Most of the times when they were separated, his parents would return after 30 minutes.

‘They are a bit late today...’

Jiss thought while chewing on a sandwich.

The sandwiches made by Laurelle were pretty tasty.

‘Bacon tastes delicious~!’

Jiss thought while he was leisurely defeating the sandwich!

Streams of water were pouring down from small holes in the wall where

Rendall, Laurelle, Grona, Hereseh, and Nedhand were currently trapped in.

"Ahhh! To die in such a place..."

"I'm sorry everyone. It was a huge mistake to relax even for a moment!" said the Dwarf Nedhandal, and for a brief moment he wanted to drink beer while on a ship.

They were a skilled team of tomb robbers that normally could avoid major crisis, such as these, but now it looks like the years of robbing has finally come back to hunt them.

Unfortunately, Hereseh's magic level was still too low to do any kind of teleportation magic for the group also.

Water was quickly streaming down the walls and filling up the room they were currently trapped in. Already it was coming up to Nedhand's neck.

The Dwarf could use their short legs to swim for awhile but if the water completely flooded the room, it will be the end for everyone.

"I'm fine, but Jiss... Jiss! Oh my baby!"

Laurelle eyes were streaming with tears as she was thinking about her Jiss.

A child left alone in the tomb!

Even if one could escape the dungeon. if one doesn't fully release the trap that has been sprung, then isn't possible to get out.

It is possible that he could die from starvation from searching for his parents in the tomb.

"Honey! Our poor child Jiss! What are we going to do..."

Laurelle was distraught at the thought of her precious baby boy dying from starvation while stuck in some dark dungeon looking for them.

Or when the divine protection magic finally fails, that he becomes visible to the eyes of the monsters and is then eaten alive!

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Jiss's stomach was finally full from eating his mothers sandwiches.

"Buuurrrp"

"Yep, I acknowledge the great taste of this sandwich,"

he said aloud with a lazy smile on his face.

For a little moment Jiss focused in on his parents to see what was

taking them so long. After a moment, their thoughts slowly flowed into his mind and he began reading them.

-Oh my baby Jiss! What should I do?! I'll be leaving you to the mercy of this dungeon!

-So, Mr.Warrior Rendall. This is how your life ends huh.... Because of Jiss I can't die peacefully.

-I'm so sorry. This is all my fault. khuchk... If I survive this I'll stop drinking beer from now on, this I swear on my dwarven honor!

"This is why I need to keep a watchful eye on them."

When his parents become worried about him, Jiss paid close attention to them."

"You guys should have been more careful. How could they guys fall into such an obvious trap! You guys aren't kids!"

Kids without parents in this world have a hard time living their life and are often exploited.

If one doesn't have power in the Marka Continent, and they don't have parents to protect them they are sold as slaves.

'You guys have fallen into a quite an easy trap. Looks like I'll have enough time to save you.'

Jiss read Dwarf Nedhand's thoughts and walked towards them.

Thankfully, Nedhand was kept thinking about the mistake he had made in his head.

'It should be here...'

*Ka-Utcha*

He identified the switch hidden in between the rocks.

Fortunately, it wasn't a hard to reach area for a child's of his height, and it was installed at the bottom.

Jiss jumped and hanged off the wooden lever and it slowly went down below.

*Karoooooong!*

He heard a deep booming sound when the mechanism activated and he heard as the wall opened letting out in a rush all of the water that had built up inside the sealed room.

These humans look like wet bald tailed mice who fell into a trap.

'What... Jiss? How did you get here?'

Jiss sighed loudly. The circumstance made it tough for him to act

innocent.

-Jiss! Jiss! Ooh my baby boy!

-Oh the Gods, you have saved this Rendall.

-Kuhuuck. I'm barely alive. When I get out of this tomb I'm having my fill of beer.'

## The Time of Storm and Gale

"It becomes helpful to learn about the principles of Mana in this world... It is said, being able to study magic becomes a great opportunity to confirm one's potential. Because magic is not a subject just anyone can easily learn."

"I'm not too sure about this. I'm pretty stupid so I think it would be better if I learn it after I grow up a little."

"Hmm, from what I can see, you seem to have a pretty good head on your shoulders."

"But i feel like I will only be a nuisance to you Uncle Hereseh."

"For a small child, you sure think deep."

"....."

"Even if it is difficult after giving it a try, you just need to try harder. Of course having a talent for magic is important, but the drive for academic achievements is just as necessary. That is why it's also called magical studies."

After reaching the age of 5, Jiss had acquired a Master.

Hereseh, who had dibs on him from the beginning, had stepped forward and said that he would teach him.

Magic is difficult and if understood incorrectly, can cause serious accidents.

Jiss, due to having been listening in on Hereseh's thoughts about magic before, he had trouble pretending to not to know what he was talking about.

"If you know the foundation of magic from a young age, you will also come to live knowing the painful rules of mana early. This will also be a great step rising towards to become an archmage in the future. Ah. Once my class is over, try to go to Nedhand too. That person said that he also had some things he wanted to teach you too."

Nedhand was waiting for him at the smithy in town. Even though it was within the city, the stability of the public peace was not to the point where a child can go alone, so Grona had to accompany him.

"To extract steel from iron ore isn't easy. Still, if you have unyielding patience and endurance, it's not difficult work either."

"I'm not thinking of becoming a blacksmith sir."

"It's a good way to train your strength as a warrior. As for today, let's start from the way of holding the hammer and how to strike the iron.

Jiss still had some curiosity as well, a small interest of creating something while handling iron. This small interest that was comparable to playing with clay in the art class, didn't even last 5 minutes.



Hammering the iron at a steady rhythm was difficult and too physically demanding.

"My hands are really sore. Isn't there something else I can do?"

"Was I expecting too much? Well, I guess this isn't work for a weak boned human child. Go and gather some materials instead."

"When can we make a sword?"

"In about 10 years once the skin on your hands has become toughened and calloused, you can move on to the next step."

"...I'd prefer it if it could happen much faster than that..."

"You fool. Even if I wanted to teach you, for someone who cannot feel the breath of iron and fire, this task would be impossible"

As expected of a dwarf craftsman, he did not give away his secrets too easily.

Anyways, Hereseh's magic lectures were things Jiss' had been listening on all this time. As a baby with nothing else to play with, he'd been listening closely to his words and so had developed a vague understanding of magic.

When he was a baby, he could not ask Hereseh about parts he did not understand. Because of that, learning magic now felt like scratching an

itchy spot he couldn't scratch before.

On the other hand, Nedhand's form of education was 'excessive physical activities' something young Jiss could not easily handle.

"I am still young. What will you do if I get hurt or become sick from this?"

Although Jiss tried to dispute, Nedhand just exploded in mocking laughter.

"Your mom could just fix you up."

With divine power, healing injuries and restoring stamina was possible for Laurelle. Dispelling pain from even broken bones and severe myalgia instantly, it was impossible to fake sickness.

'Saying mom's hand is medicine hand is truly a fact in this world.' (Zix: In Korea, there is a saying mom's hand is medicine hand. Mothers in Korea would often rub kid's bellyache while chanting this.)

Since life can be lost with the slightest of mistakes in this world, education was strict here even for children. There was no other choice but to beat the iron just like NedHand from an early age.

Change to Real World

"Agh, nothing is easy anywhere. I didn't realize I would be struggling in

that worlds education too..."

Back to reality, Yeonwoo laid down on the floor flatly.

He was at his happiest moment when he was rolling on the floor, eating ice-cream while doing nothing.

Though kids from elementary school sometimes gathered to play, he didn't really have interest playing with them.

The other children were just normal 8 year olds.

Yeonwoo already had the mental age of a thirteen year old.

"I don't want want to play with them....."

At school, with top grades and a reserved personality, he succeeded giving out an image as a perfect student.

At home, he had an older brother and younger siblings, however they too seemed nothing but immature to him.

-The allowance Mom gave me is already gone. Should I take my younger siblings money? Nha.. they shouldn't have much money either.. I will just take money from the kids who pass through the school backalley'

-Need to kill ants. I'ma go roast them with the magnifying glass. I also want to catch grasshoppers, the girls at the playground will be shocked when i show it to them. kee kee keek.

– I'll beg mom to buy me a dress to show off at kindergarten talent competition tomorrow. I will also ask dad in a cute way so he will want to pamper me and buy me a lovely hairpin.

'When will you guys grow up. The day may not even come before the world ends.'

Because Yeon Woo could also read the mind of his parents, he pondered even more.

'Meanwhile parents are working hard and struggling to support our family!'

-This month I am going to ask the boss to give me part of the bonus in cash. So I can get some fried pork belly and Soju with my friends. (Zix: Soju is Korean rice wine)

His father often tried to spend some of the money he earned this way, however he always just ended up buying snacks for his children instead or giving them an allowance.

Mom also, even though tired in the morning, always prepared breakfast for us and showed us a bright face when she returned from work.

These small efforts from the parents, the other children did not know about, Yeonwoo understood them clearly.

"Aigo(something like sigh), it's too cumbersome to play outside, relaxing on the floor is the best."

Yeonwoo spent his holidays reading comic books and watching Television, and stayed in even when his friends called him to play outside. Because of the excruciating studies and physical activities he does in the other world, when he came back to the real world, he spent his time resting doing nothing.

"Everything is cumbersome. For three days, I am just going to rest."

Between friends he earned the nickname 'turtle', though all he wanted to do was stay still anyways.

Jiss became one year older and turned 6 years old.

In the Republic of Korea, regardless of being five or six years old, they were regarded as children and treated as such. However in the Marka continent (dream world), things were a little different.

"It's finally time for you to learn how to run."

"But I already know how to run very well?"

"Can you chase down wind? Don't you want to learn how to run fast and stealthily enough that you will be undetected by the superior senses of the wild animals? If you train a bit more, in a forest you can out-speed even a bird."

"Tha...that is possible even for me?"

"No. It's impossible for humans. Only Elves can run like that in the forest."

" ... "

"No, it is still possible. Humans are a race with great potential."

Then dark elf Grona taught him how to run.

The way elves run is very different from the way humans run. Elves also do not breathe heavily from their mouths like humans do. Drinking the breath of the forests deeply, they run as if they are gliding on the ground.

"It will be very difficult initially. It isn't an easy thing for a human to learn how to run like an elf. Only when you can drink from the breath of the forest, you will be able to make your body light. Later on you will be even able to jump to the top of a tree in one go. Don't you wanna be able to do that?"

"Keuheuk. I absolutely don't want to be able to do that." (Zix: Keuheuk is like the sound you make when you can barely breath.)

Jiss ran through the forest until it felt like his airway was blocked all the way to his chin and his heart was about explode. In the real world he was at an age to play hide and seek in the playground, but here he was jumping and running over hills and fallen trees.

Hereseh ,Nedhand and Grona shared all of their wisdom and experience with Jiss selflessly. Jiss rescuing the trapped party had become the impetus of the grave robber group education.

Marka continent is a place of many dangers and filled with opportunities of mysterious adventures. Vast undiscovered lands, domains of monsters, ruins of ancient civilizations, secret areas of forbidden entry by the empire.

If you wanted to travel anywhere, unless you had dozens of extra lives in stock, it wouldn't be uncommon for you to die and rot as a skeleton in some desolate area.

That is why, to hold on to his life, there were many things left for Jiss to learn.

Though things he saw, heard and experienced in the dungeons were already substantial, he had to physically learn with his body as well.

'But you know, somehow this is still kinda fun.'

Although he found the training and the education very hard, Jiss was excited for the future.

Rendall, Grona and Nedhand's physical capabilities were all extremely impressive.

Watching their movements and abilities during combat was as amazing as watching a blockbuster movie. Jumping off the ground then kick-

jumping off walls to suppress monsters with strength and speed, they displayed great combat abilities.

Hereseh's magic prowess also had the ability to capture one's attention instantly, as it shined in overwhelming splendor and strength.

'So your saying I can also have this power when I grow up a little.'

Observing his parents and their colleagues ever since he was a baby, he couldn't help but wanting to be like them. It was impossible for him to be not like this.

-Your ability to understand magic is impressive. I don't know if you will have the ability to feel mana but you should still be able to get a job as a mage.

-This boy tries to take short cuts and slack off but looking at how he still finishes everything he is assigned to, he is still quite the sincere worker. Considering humans cannot catch up dwarven blacksmiths even if they were to spend their entire life, he is not bad at all.

-Even though he cannot drink from the breath of the forest, his flexibility and physical strength are still growing nicely. He is of Rendall's blood after all. Though Laurelle's blessings are probably having a bigger effect.

The teacher's evaluation on Jiss were on the generous side. They did not have too much expectations of Jiss's ability just yet.

To use magic one needed to know how to feel the mana and rapidly reconstruct it, thus strong innate senses and a brilliant mind were



required. If you lacked the ability to feel and analyze the characteristics of Mana, you were better off giving up and becoming a wizard.

Because in the future, there was a big possibility of causing a lot of pain when trying to cast a difficult spell. In most cases, if you are a mage lacking magical talent, you would become a low-circle magician or become a magic researcher.

Of course these lesser mages were not respected by anyone nor allowed to travel the continent freely. Still, because the demands for magicians are high, it was easy to settle down and not starve anywhere.

Meanwhile, while experiencing war and disasters, human's technology and ability to handle iron has grown in leaps and bounds through the years.

In particular, the magic armor born from the research of the magicians can be seen as the crown jewel of this advancement.

Magic armor, the love and pride of the Magical Studies!

A masterpiece born from the technology and magic of the human race, who were once looked down upon as inferior by other races.

Dwarves, who normally hated the elves, then also cooperated with the elves to develop their own magic armor.

Dwarves who can create anything, with the help of elves who use high level magic daily as if it was as easy as breathing, they together created

magnificent awe inspiring magic armors.

These armors had much more efficiency than the magic armors made by the Grateess Empire so they were objects of anyone's envy, however the owners of these magical armor did not come out to the outside world.

This was because only a handful of high elf knights living in the deep forest had ownership of these magic armors.

Though the magic armors created by the dwarves and elves were discovered 270 years ago, they are still boasted as having the best quality so far.

Grateess Empire continued to improve their own magic armors, however they could not surpass the creation of the dwarves and the high elves. (Zix: you guys can try to google 마장기. It is a gundam looking robot armor thing)

Orcs were the only race who couldn't create a magic armor. Even if they were to acquire one, with their unmatched simplicity, they would just end up trading it for food and alcohol. However, living in the Great Plains, Orcs were extremely fearless.

If for example humans build a fort and try to advance into the Great Plains, the Orcs would come attacking like a flood. Though the knights in a magical armor would be able to survive, the fort would still be destroyed, and all other soldiers would be massacred.

Some Kingdoms, who tried to enter the Great Plains in the past,

suffered from a cycle of looting and revenge throughout the following years, facing total annihilation.

While Jiss read his book, his parents talked business with their colleagues.

It seems that Rendall has obtained some new information from the Grave Robber's guild.

"The grave we will explore this time will be the buried grounds of Knight Garegosa of Earl Fred."

Dwarf Nedhand was not impressed.

"If it's a human knight, then there won't be much things to salvage."

Compared to commoners, an Earl's knight was certainly more richer, however there still was a large gap compared to high nobility.

"The knight Garegosa, instead of a cemetery, created his burial place by the Kelten Canyon. This was because his child died there when he was fighting monsters there. Also two years ago, House of Earl Fred collapsed after power struggles amongst other high nobility family. The Earl's family who had accumulated a mountain of wealth from business, it all just disappeared to somewhere after their collapse."

"Is the treasure buried in the Garegosa's grave?"

"The possibility is high. There are only a few people who still remember the existence of Garegosa's grave. As his grave's location is in Kelton Canyon, it is somewhere most people wouldn't visit."

"How about a magical armor?"

"If it was a family with a magic armor, the family probably would not have been annihilated."

"Expensive treasures are fine too. I guess we should go get geared up and go check out the grave."

Due to monsters rampaging regardless of nighttime or daytime, normally Kelten Canyon was not a place where a party of mere 5 people would visit.

Rendall, Laurelle, Grona, Hereseh, and Nedhand then packed their belongings and headed to Kelton Canyon.

Jiss followed his parents as well.

Because he was a little older now, he had to walk instead of riding piggy back on Grona.

'I hope we find lots of treasure this time. Though my parents are quite talented in this field, so I don't really have to worry. Even with just the treasures we have hidden in our warehouse, they can already live quite abundantly.'

The treasures they have been gathering from grave hunting wasn't just hidden under their basement either. The treasures were also stored in hidden hideouts in the city, places people wouldn't visit around the continent, or even in a special tomb.

Treasures from the tomb they found they could not claim right away had to be buried and hidden somewhere for a while.

You can think of it as some sort of retirement funds.

The burning sun reflected emerald light from the prairie during the day. And by the night the cries of monsters and wolves were heard.

Experienced tomb robbers had the ability to grasp the general location of the grave with just a basic scenery.

Garegosa's tomb entrance was located by the cave on the steep slope of the canyon.

## Part 2

"This is it."

"It's quite wide. "

As they went deeper into the tomb , more traces of monsters appeared.

For the most part, monsters dwelled in dungeons or large tombs.

Information on the monsters itself proved to be valuable for grave robbers.

Small and considerably intelligent monsters, goblins were able to use tools and occasionally used goods they had found.

If gold coins were discovered on a goblin's body, it was a good sign that there might be treasures near by.

Rendall obtained this fact from the backalley information guild and invested in nearby areas. Then he was able to find the general location of Garegosa's grave.

It had to be a place that couldn't be found by people easily, as well as an area large enough for a group of goblins who normally reside in caves.

Of course the investigation was difficult with only this amount of

information but by observing the nearby terrain the possible locations can be narrowed.

"In-intruder!"

The goblin retaliated while screaming their lungs out but for experienced grave robbers, they weren't much of a threat.

Rendall, who was wearing a light leather armor, unsheathed his sword and stepped forward. Nedhand, dual wielding short axes, covered his back.

Goblins were no match for even against just two of them, but with the help of Heresea's magic and Grona's arrows, it was only a matter of time.

"Guaaaak!"

Rendall slayed the goblins mercilessly.

Goblins, due to their cowardly nature, had the tendency of running away when they were scared.

If a goblin carrying treasure would managed to escape, he may attract even more dangerous existences.

There are only 14 of them. (Zix: he refers Goblins as 14마리, where 마리 is a suffix you add when you are counting animals.)

Nedhand was disappointed not getting the chance to use his axes properly. Caves were a seldom life threatening place.

Wizards usually put up complex traps to protect their research, and insecurely put up extra magic traps for good measure. When the magic traps are still active, a magician's tomb were very difficult to grave rob and many problems needed to be overcome.

However the reward that came after the completion was substantial. This was because even though most magicians had disciples, they chose to store all their research and treasure in the lab as well as using it as their final resting place. Research records, magic items and materials could be easily found there.

So compared to a magicians tomb, finding treasure at a knight's tomb were often done by just digging little around the area. Also treasures were also usually limited to their sword, armor, and maybe a little amount of antiques.

That being said, ordinary knight Garegosa's tomb was placed in a simple cave, there would be no dangerous monsters or goblins, even traps would be unlikely.

"Considering the Goblin's breeding ability, it seems they haven't lived here for very long."

After looking around Hereseh started to speak.

"In a spacious place like this, with 2 years alone, they would have multiplied in the hundreds already."



"There are some few gems and it seems there are about 634 gold pieces."

"If it's only this much, it is too small to be the Earl's entire fortune. There might still be a hidden area, I am going to search around a little more."

The dwarf Nedhand began to search around.

He began to survey the ground and the walls spotlessly. Dwarves tend to be careless when drinking beer, but they were perfectionists when it came to any tasks at hand.

Then he stopped in front of a blockage.

"This place seems suspicious. No other place seems to have a secret area."

"Maybe the cave collapsed here before?"

"It has been a long time since Garegosa was buried. Looking at the dirt, this rubble seems to be quite recent. It's possible Goblins did this but it is possible the Earl's Family collapsed this part to hide their treasure."

"Will the cave continue to collapse?"

Nedhand studied the wall and the ceiling thoroughly.

"I don't think so. The ceiling seems to be crumbling here, but if we dig a little to the side, we may be able to make an entrance."

Nedhand pulled out two pickaxes from his backpack and gave one to Rendall. Then they begin to dig.

As you grave rob, you will gather various skills but digging can be seen as the very basic skill of grave robbing.

They have already prepare a lot of food before, so they don't have to get back to town, not to mention people didn't usually come to the Canyon.

Grona was looking out the cave entrance, looking for any monsters or humans that may be approaching.

She also summoned earth spirits to reinforce the cave's ceiling so it wouldn't collapse.

And, 4 days later!

"The Earl's treasure!"

Beside Garegosa's coffin, they found Fred Earl's hidden treasure.

There were gold coins and jewelry, as well as valuable artwork and antiques.

There were a significant amount of Vientin kingdom's antique, however due to the collapsing ceiling, at least half of them were damaged or

shattered.

Hereseh clicked his tongue.

"It is quite regretful. If he had used a mage he would have been to take care of things carefully. Though understandably, only loyal knights wouldn't have stolen anything."

Grona spoke after she counted the treasure.

"Looking at the gold coins alone it's more than 1,000 gold. While the jewelry can be sold at the black market for at least 3,000 gold."

Hereseh was dissatisfied not being able to contribute much to this trip. Other than time spent teaching Jiss magic, it was nothing but boring.

"We worked hard so at least this amount of treasure was needed to match our suffering. Though the treasure is still less than expected for it to be the Earl's entire fortune."

Rendall agreed on that point as well.

He thought the fortune of an active Earl would surmount to at least 20,000 to 30,000 gold.

"Either he hid his wealth elsewhere, or his family was not as wealthy as others thought."

"Either way, let's get going."

The experienced grave robber party, once again after a successful harvest, decided to back to Terace.

But, as soon as they get closer to the city, they saw a scene of soldiers moving in groups. The sight of people not coming out of the city also seemed suspicious.

"Something must have happened. Grona, let's go find out together."

"Okay."

After getting a room at a hotel, Rendall and Grona collected information at the tavern before returning.

"They are saying a civil war has broken out. After the current emperor collapsed, immense war between the army of the king candidate and the prince broke out and currently progressing. "

It has been a while since the cities of the Grates Empire were invaded by other surrounding countries.

However, the scary thing about this situation was, a war could have broken out between any lords of these cities.

Hereseh sighed.

"I knew this time would eventually come. There was already a tension between the king candidate and the third prince, this will be quite a long civil war. Many cities will be devastated."

"There is also a rumour that the fourth prince is trying to bring in another kingdom's army."

"From our standpoint, this war will create many noble graves for us to dig later. Wait a minute, that means it would be dangerous for us to travel to Terace right now."

With the civil war going on, it was safer to stay quietly at a city far away from the capital.

With rule and order gone, there was a chance of being attacked by the Imperial Army on the plains.

Laurelle shared her opinion.

"Like the past the civil war may not end in the matter of 1 or 2 years, so how does hiding out at the elf's forest sound?"

There was a forest where elves lived within the Gratesse empire. With the force of the Elves being too fearsome, this was a place where the empire's rules and order did not apply, making it a safe place away from the war.

Laurelle had healed elves and had become their friends before, so it had become a place where she could visit anytime.

"That is a great idea. We only have to cross only about three mountains from here so we don't have to worry about encountering the army . "

"Let's go to the forest of the elves"

The elf forest had just replaced the city Terrace as his new home.

Elf's Friend

# Part 1

"So once upon a time, there was a magician named Polukara"

Anytime Yeonwoo started to tell a story, the other elementary students gathered to his desk.

"And then?"

"What was that magician's specialty?"

"Yeonwoo! Tell us already."

Little girls spoke with their eyes sparkling.

"His specialization was water manipulation. He made rain when he was thirsty, to an extent new rivers would start flowing."

"Wow. that's amazing."

Yeonwoo now a 2nd year elementary student 9 year old!

Shin-Sooyeon, who had the sit next to him, was completely submerged in his story.



Out of boredom, he has been telling her stories he had heard from the Marka Continent.

She was completely entertained when he told her stories of Evil Kings or Queens, of the Knights and Magicians that have defeated them, and also adventures of fairies.

Now after the rumors of his stories had spread, whenever it was break time the kids gathered to Yeonwoo to listen to his story.

-Yeonwoo is really the best. How can he put those kind of stories together?

-He must have talent as a fiction writer.

-Oh my God. His stories are even more fun than animation movies I saw with my mom.

-How come we don't get movies in this world with stories like that? Jackpot. Total Jackpot.

Yeonwoo thought to himself he will probably won't have to worry about ever starving to death. For what reasons would he have to get a job at a company.

'It seems I will be able to survive on writing books of stories of Marka Continent alone?'

It was an unexpected merit of having a different life experience in an another world.

Yeonwoo was popular to a point where all the girls wanted to spend all their time with him. Still, though these girls were more mature than girls Jin-Sora or Yee-Heejin when he was still in kindergarten, in his perspective these girls looked like they were still in their diapers.

‘My mental age should be about 15 now. I should almost be in High-school.’

Compared to his friends, his mental age was growing double their speed. Though it is not a huge difference yet, later on he will suffer becoming an old man stuck in a kid’s body.

‘Well, these are the negative points to my situation~’

When he told stories of the Marka Continent, he sprinkled spice and excitement in his story telling instead of just telling the stories colorlessly.

“So then the beautiful Jinia was able to become rich when the kid fairy cried a river, and she gathered and sold those tears.”

“So it all worked out really well.”

“Wow. But she couldn’t meet the prince?”

Elementary school girls were satisfied by the happy ending. Though in reality Jinia became a virulent witch after getting a little taste of prosperity. However there was no reason to tell the girls of Jinia capturing and abusing fairies to sell their tears and her getting burnt on a stake.

"Do the story where that kid was resurrected!"

"Is there no story about Jiss today?"

Yeonwoo's own adventure as Jiss was also very popular amongst the kids. Adventures of a kid who is about the same age as the little girls! His stories were filled with realism, since they were still based on his actual experience even though it was from another world.

There were other kids who disliked Yeonwoo for being so popular amongst the girls as well.

-What a dirtbag.

Han-Cheuljae was tall and athletic even for an elementary student. Other kids found it troublesome to play with him since he also had a strong glare. However Yeonwoo knew he was not a bad kid at heart.

'Innocent brat'

Second year elementary school students are at an age where they would begin to act sly and selfish. Even though they would act like good friends, joke around, boast about things and act innocent hiding under their mom's skirt, but in the inside they would disregard and curse Yeonwoo.

Compared to those buggers, Han-Cheuljae who blatantly showed

disdain towards Yeonwoo both inside and outside was truly an astonishingly innocent brat.

Yeonwoo approached Han-Cheuljae during break time.

"What's going on?"

Han-Cheuljae even had a deep low tone voice. Of course, Yeonwoo was not a person to be discouraged by only this amount of harshness.

He saw Nedhand crush monsters his axes several hundred times already, and he was also covered in blood and bone marrow before. Compared to Rendall's physique and strength, he was but a kid with round sparkling eyes.

He may become different when he grows older but for now he was but a neighborhood brat.

Yeonwoo spoke first.

"Hey lets be friends"

"Like I'd want to"

"Come on, you look lonely all by yourself... don't you wanna play together?"

"Like I would want to play with you. Go away."

Han-Cheuljae's heart wasn't so easily swayed.

However being able to read someone's mind in advance often gave Yeonwoo absolute power.

Yeonwoo said friendly.

"Class president is also going to eat with us. Come join us."

".....!"

Class President Song-Jaeseon is Yeonwoo's friend who always come to school with him.

The girl with a bright smile even though she studied like she was a homework loving bookworm!

She was Han-Cheuljae's one sided love, who he was only able to observe silently.

Sitting behind her and watching her study was enough to make him joyous.

"Do....n't want..."

Han-Cheuljae was still a man who knew to answer 'No' to save face.

-What should I do. I can eat lunch with Jaeseon..... I will be even able to talk with her!

"Don't be like that, let's go eat together."

"I.. said.... I do.....n't want..."

-Ahh..ah... at this pace is he just going to walk away? Should I have accepted after denying him just once?

"This is a difficult request amongst men, but you know I don't like sausages. So I was hoping you can eat it for me. You know how it is, I can't act nitpicky in front of the girls and embarrass myself."

"Well, if it is like that..... I can help you out."

Han-Cheuljae was finally won over regardless of Yeonwoo's ridiculous reasoning.

No matter the circumstance, Han-Cheuljae was still only an elementary student!

– Ah what do I do. What do say to Jaeseon. I am the man so I have to say something first but she should atleast know my name right? Will she dislike eating with me? Did mom pack me delicious things for lunch today?

Han-Cheuljae came to them flip flopping with his lunch at hand during lunch-time.

Song-Jaeseon spoke brightly.

"Hi? Cheuljae. I heard you were going to eat with us today. Come sit over here."

"He...lloo. It is nice to meet you."

Han-Cheuljae even turned a little reddish while they ate.

He was also joyous he was able to eat her lunch as well.

-This bastard Yeonwoo. I was wrong all this time. He is seriously a nice guy. I should be nice to him from now on.

Regular elementary student life was nothing but easy for Yeonwoo.

## Part 2

Jiss couldn't help but roll his eyes sideways as he walked through the Elf Village.

The unbelievably beautiful elves, with their porcelain skin and slender figure, were mouth gapingly mesmerizing.

'Th....they are on a completely different dimension.'

The appearance completely on another dimension compared to the girls from his elementary school!

Even if compared to the celebrities on the television, their beauty was impossibly incomparable.

Their skin, height, ratios, and race themselves were different so this was inevitable.

The dwarf Nedhand didn't show much interest, however the long-time single middle-age Hereseh also couldn't help but to also roll his eyes.

Rendall also couldn't help but being a man and his mind was hectic eating up all the women.

"Hey Jiss. Stop staring and come over here."



"Okay."

Laurelle first went to the Elf's Chieftain's house to pay salutations.

"Welcome."

"We meet once again. You haven't change a bit sir."

"Our separation was but a short moment, though it must felt like a long time for you who is human. Come sit."

The elf chieftain signaled her to sit on the flat rock inside his house.

Only Laurelle and Rendall sat down.

"How fair is your business going? Though it would be better to just stop doing dangerous jobs."

"It is all going well sir, thanks to your compassion."

Elves did not have any negative opinions towards grave robbers.

They did not understand why people buried treasures with the deceased, when you return to dirt and nature when you die.

There were even times when Laurelle traded some grave robbed items with the elves.

"I am curious to know of your sudden arrival at the forest."

"Did you hear about the civil war breaking out within the empire?"

"I have heard recently from my scouts."

Even though there was a non-aggression treaty declaration between the Grateess empire and the elves, this did not mean there was no friction between them.

Historically elves were involved in many wars with the humans so they were always weary of the outside world.

"We would like to stay here just until the war is over."

"Friends are always welcome in the forest. You may stay here as long as you want. I will prepare a hut usable for humans."

"Thank you very much."

## Part 3

Jiss was also interested in fauna and flora other than just the elvish women of the village.

‘The forest of the elves huh. Looks like I will have to live here for a while.’

There were many animals like rabbits and deers in the forest, where the tall trees were piercing towards the sky and the flowers giving off sweet aromas.

It was a very rare thing for a human to live in the forest. The elves that were walking by showed slight interest towards the human child.

- It’s a young human.
- Human child.
- It is a human?

Elves who usually never gave any interests towards others!

‘What a peaceful and quiet place. I liked the liveliness of the city life better..... though, not being sucked into war is a plus.’

When wars broke loose, it wasn’t uncommon for citizens to be marked as rebels and face mass execution.

Compared to that, living in the forest while listening to birds tweet and the winds shaking the leaves weren't bad at all.

'Since there is no forge here I won't have to learn iron handling from Nedhand here.'

He was happy one of his daily tasks were temporarily abolished. Hammering iron in front of scorching flame was not an easy chore.

However Nedhand began to teach Jiss a different skill instead.

"Every once in a while you will find a locked door or chest. Ahem. You may not know yet since you are still young but sometimes it is important unlock these things. Especially when they are bathing, we dwarfs..... this part that is not for children. Anyways let's begin learning lock picking."

– Dwarf lock picking skill is the best in any part of the continent. As the dwarf women showed off their skills by developing their own locks, the dwarf men had to pick these locks to enter their house. Basically only the skillful dwarves were awarded with women.

Hereseh's basic magic lessons also continued.

"Let's have some lectures on nature magic since we came to the Forest of the Elves. Unlike human magic which focuses in practicality and destruction, the elvish magic utilizes the power of nature to dispel curses or heal injuries. Though elvish magic is very difficult to learn, the good point of this magic is that it's power grows almost exponentially as you

climb higher circles.”

There were many variety of magic depending on each race.

Since Magical Studied dwelled in exploring the origins of the world, there were many topics that needed to be covered for beginners.

Dark Elf Grona also didn't stop training.

The forest was not at all a comfortable place for her since her skin was pitch dark.

Due to betrayal and corruption within the Dark Elves in the pasts, forests were destroyed and many soldiers lost their lives and were forced into slavery. The current mountain of the Dark Elves was Heaven for criminals of all race.

Though the glares of the elves weren't kind, Grona ran in the forest to help Jiss become stronger.

“It is really fortunate that we came to the Elves' Forest. It became easier to drink the forests breath right? Since we can run faster now without getting tired, we will be increasing the distance from today.”

“Kuuhhggh. Kuhhuhhhuhhhukgggh!”

What an absolute lie!

It was even harder to run in the Elves' Forest due to rocks and densely

growing trees.

As Jiss drank the breath of the forest, trees and flowers sometimes spoke to him.

'Hello. What a sunny and warm morning today.'

'Run more carefully. My root is over there.'

Jiss did not reply back. No, he couldn't since running required all of his energy.

'I am so tired I am gonna die.....'

Though he couldn't help stepping on some tree roots, he really had to focus on not stepping on flowers as much as possible.

"Your stride form is not stable. Also run more straight. If you sway back and forth you are going to ruin your balance!"

Grona nagged Jiss after seeing him running weirdly.

In her point of view, he looked as if he was keep changing his speed and stride even though there was a clean sure cut path right in front of him.

However Jiss couldn't help it since he constantly heard the screaming voices of the flowers and seeds in the dirt.

Next in line was his father, Rendall.

"You listened to Nedhand's lecture with focus right? Since you have some arm strength now and a decent physique from the running, let's start learning swordsmanship in the morning and nighttime."

"Even though I am just barely 7?"

"You must know how to use the sword if you are a man. Also if there is time left, it would be useful to learn archery as well."

Elf's Friend Continued

# Part 1

After coming to the Elves' Forest, there was nothing for Rendall, Grona, Nedhand, and Hereseh to do except for working on Jiss's training.

"We need to nurture Jiss to become a magician. He is understanding the concepts of principles of mana and the basic magics very well. It is hard to believe his mental power is but of only 7 years old."

"It is really to that extend?"

"Concepts of magical studies is not an easy thing to understand. Even though magical studies are complicated since it tries to explain the world's logic, he understands any explanation I throw at him as if he can stare into my mind, all the while showing curiosity. At this pace he will become a great magician. He might even be able to surpass me. He will even be able to work at the higher floors of the Magic Tower."

Hereseh had complete faith in Jiss's future as a magician.

A position at the Magic Tower was something humans of the entire continent envied.

Though it was hard to see the limits of his potential since he was so young, the ambiguity made his expectations grow even larger.

"Who cares about that archaic magic tower..... it would be much better



for him to live as my apprentice at the forge.”

Nedhand was also satisfied at Jiss’s skills.

Of course he was still incomparable to dwarves who were natural born blacksmiths.

Compared to dwarven kids who hammered iron and morphed its characteristic, his skills were only at a level of basic hammering and starting the forge’s fire.

However this amount of skill level was still very useful for a human.

If he trained just 10 more years, his skills would be recognized and accepted by any blacksmiths.

Creating something in the forge was number one happiest job a dwarf could ask for.

Dark Elf Grona also provided her evaluation on Jiss’s growth.

“He can drink a bit of the forest’s breath now. Thanks to that he can run farther and there is a big room for development. Also even though he runs weirdly in the forest, he doesn’t trip easily and rather drinks the breath of the forest very well.”

Rendall pondered after listening to his comrades’ evaluations.

‘Which way do I have to teach him from now on?’

Jiss hasn’t shown much promise in swordsmanship yet.

This was understandable considering the little child can barely handle his body well while holding the heavy sword. Meanwhile his talent in magic and running were practically at a genius level.

However he still showed interest in swordsmanship, and his progress in physical abilities were also steady.

This was a phase when a parent had lots of expectations for the future of his or her child.

## Part 2

Jiss's worries increased as he got older.

"Is living like this the right way to live?"

He himself thought his progress in magic studies were nice and steady.

This progress was obvious since he listened to Hereseh's mind ever since he was a baby and he always had an interest in the mystic art.

It has been a long time since he has done smithing work in the Elves' Forest and there were also no smithing work available.

He just learned little bit of trap disabling and pick-locking so he didn't have to think much of blacksmithing.

Compared to dwarves who live for 150 years with the natural born desire to create things, there was no way for a human to catch up to them in forging anyways.

His running also improved day by day as he ran with Grona.

In the beginning he could barely let the air get past his chin and his heart felt like it was about to explode, running began to become refreshing and peaceful when he learned how to drink the forest's breath.

The ecstasy of the refreshing entering the exhausted body was truly satisfying.

He was still far from being able to chase the wind, but running made him happy.

As he also learned swordsmanship from Rendall with interest, his life was that of an ideal students.

‘Em. I didn’t know I was going to have a life like this... What a strong earnest feeling.’

In his life as Yeonwoo, he was just a normal student who attended school with a book bag. He lived his life normally, meeting friends and living his school life moderately. He just needed to rest in the real world and come to the Marka continent when he wanted to play.

You had to be strong to have adventures in the Marka continent and it was fun learning swordsmanship and changing one’s self by running.

## Part 3

The civil war in the Grateess empire became more and more exacerbated by day.

The warlords and the nobilities of the empire conspired to increase their own power while the king laid in his bed, unable to get up.

Within the palace, the factions of the first prince, third prince, fourth prince and the fifth prince were fiercely battling for supremacy. It did not look like the power was going to shift to one of the sides anytime soon.

The empire's fortresses were falling and cities were being destroyed as monsters poured in through these new weaknesses.

Jiss became 8 years old in the Elves' Forest.

"Hello. Elf gran.....d-pa"

Jiss always gave greetings to those in the elf village.

-He is greeting me again today.

-It's a human child.

-I saw him yesterday, I see we meet again.

As always, the stubbornly indifferent Elves!

It was not easy to become friendly with them and learn their name.

As he was ignored, he heard voices from the flowers.

-We are not getting enough sunlight because trees are growing too tall.

-We are going to wither and die.

-We won't be able to bloom flowers, make honey or meet any butterflies.

Flowers were dying slowly in despair.

When Jiss looked, he saw the giant tree branches blocking out the sunlight.

'Even just last year, they bloomed beautiful flowers.....'

The responsibility of being able to understand other people's agony came along with the ability to read others mind. Flowers and trees here also knew how to communicate since the Elves' Forest is so full of life force.

Countless plants grew and die continuously.

It was unsettling for him to ignore the situation, even though these were just rules of nature.

"Aehgo. It is cumbersome but whatever. It isn't hard work anyways."

Jiss carefully digged the around and pulled out the flowers and their

roots. Then he transferred them to a hill full of sunlight.

-Young human. Gracious human.

-I think I can live here very well. For you, I will make more wonderful aromas.

-If I bear fruit will you come and eat?

The plants were very thankful.

Since Jiss often looked after the trees and the flowers, every time he passed by, they released even more pure and wonderful scent.

Sometimes even apple tree branches shook and dropped scrumptious apples.

Not all forests in the continent have the ability to react to humans this way. This was possible here since the power of nature was extremely potent in the Elves' Forest.

-It's the human that knows the plants.

-It is communicating with the plants? He is better than the elvish children..... although, elves at his age would be considered extremely young. This is only possible for humans due to their fast early growth.

-He is impressive nonetheless.

Elves began to look at Jiss with a little interest.

"Hello grandpa elf!"

"Hello. Human Jiss."

Elves began to accept his greetings.

"Hello granny elf!"

"Oh my. I am only 250 now..... you can just call me big sis."

"....."

In the Elves' Forest it was ordinary for even brothers to have an age difference of 100 years.

He was even more friendly with short young elves.

"Hey Jiss. Lets play."

"Excuse me but..... how old.... are you?"

"110 years! Wanna be friends?"

Elves around the age of 50 even called Jiss big bro or big brother.

You can say elves of this age were just barely old enough to peel fruit.

Listening to old elves talk was truly a spectacle.

"He is still immature since he is only 430 years old."

"Does he even know anything at an age of only 430 years? He is at an age where he can't yet understand the wind and the earth."



Elves had lifespan of about 500 years and their aging process also progressed slowly.

Only when they were about 400 years old wrinkles began to form, so it was very difficult to gauge their age based on their appearance.

Eventually Jiss was able to make a friend.

She was silver haired Allium, who was considered extremely beautiful even amongst the elves.

She was a child born between a high elf and an elf, at an age of 140 she was about to reach adulthood when her beauty would completely bloom.

"Jiss. Hello?"

"Hello."

Jiss and Allium walked in the forest.

Between the short human kid and the slender elf whose beauty would shock the human kingdom, they did not look suited for each other. However neither cared about that at all.

This was because Jiss would grow rapidly in a matter of few years, and Allium wouldn't have changed at all by then anyways. Also between them, Jiss always held the initiative.

"Allium. What do you want to do today?"

"I know where we can see grass-bugs. Wanna go?"

"But we went there few days ago."

"Wanna go ride slides?"

There were many mystical places for them to play in the forest.

There was a beautiful pond where the sun rays shined between the tree branches, where they could spend hours playing in the water.

They often rode gigantic leaves as slides, or looked at new-born baby animals for fun.

Though animals become startled at sight of humans, they were completely relaxed when Allium was there. This was because elves nurtured nature, nor cause unnecessary murder.

"Wanna ride on my friend?"

"Really?"

Allium let Jiss ride on her friend the gryphon and fly into the sky on it's back.

Of course the Gryphon did not look at Jiss all that favorably.

-Who is this human that is hanging with my elf friend? Should I just eat him?

Whenever Allium was not in sight, the gryphon looked at Jiss drooling

with his tongue out.

He wanted at least a little taste of the forbidden human.

Allium's father Lishiansus looked at Jiss very favorably.

"I can feel the scent of the forest. It is truly mysterious. It is impossible even for elves to have that much of the forests scent at that age. Say, do you have any interest archery?"

"Sir?"

Jiss looked into Lishiansus's mind while thinking 'can it be?'

-Come on say you are interested in archery. Come on, come on! Say that you wanted to learn archery all this time.

'Well it doesn't seem like he is asking with any ill intent.'

"I have a little interest in it."

– Nice. I was so bored... As the best elvish archer of the northern forest, I am gonna teach him archery. (Zix: Lishiansus is a funny guy, he speaks to Jiss in very formal and exalted manner but inside his head, he thinks like a young easy-going guy.)

'Kugh. Yet another tutor'

Jiss was frightened.

"I see. You seem to be playing with Allium during the dusk often, you seem like you have some spare time then?"

– Dusk when the sun is going down is the best. Shooting arrows under the silver moonlight is truly romantic. (Zix: not in the 'love' way of course.)

'This is truly the worst of the worst private education. If I screw up, I might even lose all my free time.'

Jiss steeled his will.

"Not really sir. It seems it will get more busy soon. Because humans have much work to do."

"But you will still be playing with Allium."

"Yes. well.... because she is a friend."

If Jiss were to become forbidden to play with Allium, he would lose the only source of 'fun' he had left in the forest.

How can playing doctor with beautiful yet innocent Allium and running around piggy-back in the forest become anything but immensely vitalizing for one's life. (Zix: Jiss is a growing boy after all.)

However a 8 year old human seldom raised anyone's guard.

Though in reality his actual mental age was of 17 years and he held dirty thoughts!

"I shall teach you archery starting tomorrow when the dusk begins to come."

"No sir! It is alright!"

"You must have no idea how fun it is to shoot arrows yet. When you are young..... when just about your age, nothing beats archery in terms of fun. You probably don't know yet, but all the humans in the city also play shooting arrows."

"Really. Though I have never seen anyone shoot arrows in the city before?"

"You can ask your parents as well?"

– Tricking little kids is an easy task. This kids parents would fully support me teaching him archery anyways. There is no way he can get away from me.

"....."

Jiss had no choice but to surrender to Lishiansus who was going to teach him no matter what.

Additionally, Laurelle and Rendall would fully agree with Lishiansus as well.

High Elf Lishiansus also had the experience of traveling the outside world beyond the Elves' Forest. Though it was just once in every several decades.

Lishiansus's archery mastery was at a level, where the humans of the human world would be shocked in observation.

Being the best even amongst the rare high elves, his archery mastery was something humans could never reach.

"Well I am busy too so it seems I will have just one hour for you each day."

"One hour doesn't sound too bad sir. Since I also have interest in archery."

"If you learn earnestly it will be very useful."

"I will try my best sir."

Jiss decided to make a reasonable compromise.

However Lishiansus had as much experience dealing with humans as the time he spent in his life.

– Increasing teaching time is just a matter of time. If anything I can just beat him up if he tries to rebel or tries not learn, then teach him.

## Part 4

"Honey. I think we gave birth to a really good child."

"It seems it was a great decision to move into the Elves' Forest also."

Rendall and Laurelle observed Jiss in satisfaction as he was training in archery.

How can any parent not be satisfied when their child is growing up so well and is a perfect student.

"It seems I should also increase his training intensity from next year."

"Even if he develops myalgia I will treat him, so train him to your hearts content."

(Zix: R.I.P. Jiss 2015 death from over training)



# Sprint of the Wind

# Part 1

"Aigo. I am gonna die."

Jiss became 9 years old in the elves' forest.

This was already a significant age in the Marka continent. As his physique grew and as his bones set permanently, he was at an age where he could handle mana.

Of course there were 4~5 year old slaves forced to learn black magic as well.

If you learned magic from an early age magic affinity, mana capacity and growth potential became very high. However this also came with severe side effects.

The body would grow deformed if it cannot handle the mana and the brain would also crumbled like tofu.

Taking safety into consideration, it was ideal to start handling mana starting at an age of 9. Hereseh drew a magic circle that gathers mana on the ground.

"You don't have to worry too much. You can just live as a magic researcher even if you cannot understand and feel mana."

At the least, Jiss had been showing quite a promise in studies of magic for how young he was.

This was the most important moment as a magician, as he had finally reached the age where he would get to feel and utilize mana.

"Ease your heart. As everyone has mana, so do you."

"You sure? What if I am the only one without....."

"Refine your senses and focus. You will be able to feel the mana flowing in the world without fail."

Jiss then closed his eyes.

– If this brat wants to inherit my magic, he will have to be able to feel mana..... can he? By any chance he cannot, do I put an end to this? Magic scholars, compared to magicians who can rise in the magic circle with a sense of accomplishment, are of an existence like a goblin's eye booger.

Hereseh Pondered in his thoughts next to Jiss.

This was an important moment for Jiss, so Hereseh's feelings were even more tangled since he was Jiss's master.

– Ah... He needs to be able to feel mana..... Even if he isn't a genius, he still needs to be above average. He should be able to feel mana looking at how well he performed in the previous magic lessons. If he can't, he must

really have no talent for magic.

Though this was not his intention, Hereseh was bothering Jiss with his thoughts. (Zix: It seems Jiss couldn't stop Hereseh's worrying thoughts pouring into his mind. lol)

Magicians needed to have much greater sense and control over mana than knights. Otherwise the mana can conflict within one's body and cause excruciating pain.

Hereseh's thoughts kept squeezing in as Jiss was trying to focus.

'This is a once in a lifetime moment.' (Zix: This is Hereseh. This is more clear in Korean where there is a 'mature' way of speaking.)

Other than scholars, merchants, farmers, or blacksmiths, there was nothing much one could become if you did not know how to manipulate mana.

Jiss went deeper into his inner self.

It is said the moment you begin to feel the mana in yourself, you begin to understand your will more clearly.

When one can gather enough mana and will power, only then one can truly start as a magician.

In the case of swordsmen, they can utilize their mana to reconstruct

their physique to gain godlike strength.

‘Mana..... I should be able to do it right?’

To feel mana Jiss fell into deep meditation.

‘Allium is really pretty. Meanwhile Jin-Sora and Yee-Heejin are still practically babies... Other elvish women are very beautiful as well. Slender legs and their body types are just absolutely.....’ (Zix: So deep)

Jiss ended up wasting two hours in meaningless thoughts because his mental age was not of an innocent 9 year old.

He could not yet feel the mana which organized and activated his body.

Hereseh’s worry became even more larger.

– It is regrettable but it seems he is not a genius when it comes to feeling mana. He had to at least feel mana at this point if he wanted to manipulate mana at a level of a high class magician. However as long as he gets to feel by today he can at least become a regular magician.

Low circle level magic incantations were very easily done, however complicated spells consisted of dozens of different formulas were impossible to cast without being able to connect and convert mana finely.

The reason Jiss trained his body extremely was also to increase the

innate mana capacity inside his body. As he received plenty of lessons as a magician he also created a strong foundation.

It would be normal if his senses were higher than of a normal folk.

"We have time so keep trying."

"Yes. Master."

"Don't lose any control of your senses and focus in believing you have mana."

Hereseh left after giving this statement.

Since it can take up to a month to feel one's mana if one had dull sense of mana, instead of staying next to him he decided to give him some alone time.

'What exactly is mana, and where is it anyways?'

Jiss finally threw aside his pointless thoughts about Allium and searched his inner self as he asked himself the important questions.

'All these familiar feelings are just all parts of my body. Just exactly what and where am I suppose to feel.'

He had to feel mana but he couldn't feel anything weird or strange.

‘Mana absolutely exists and is a natural phenomenon, it is also everywhere in the world.... It is really easier said than done. Can it be I cannot sense it because my senses are dull?’

Finding the initial awareness of mana is very difficult.

This is because the mana in a person’s body is weak and does not move easily, thus it is difficult to mend it with one’s will power.

Black mages even stab their disciples body with knives to wake their senses. This was to create a moment when their source of life, mana, was showing the most movement.

‘Just what is it.’

Energy was visible when Hereseh used magic. Mana being used within Rendall’s body when he used swordsmanship was also visible.

‘Everybody has it..... Even after seeing it with my eyes I still don’t understand very well.’

Everytime Rendall and Hereseh used magic and swordsmanship, there was a weird feeling from the mana. As he focused using this feeling as basis, he felt a delicate pure energy from within his body.

‘So this is the mana I’ve been hearing so much about? But this energy is so abundant in this world.’

Jiss was a little dumbfounded feeling something he was already so used to.

Just as you feel cold if you go to a cold area, this was a feeling he has been sensing ever since he was a baby.

Insurmountable amount of this energy was overflowing in this world.

Since in the other world's mana was all dried up and barely existed, the feeling of mana in this world was even more noticeable.

So in the end he struggled even more because he tried to focus and look for a new sensation he hasn't felt before.

Of course Jiss was not the only one in this continent who could feel mana so easily, as they say archmages were also very different from the beginning.

It is said even if never taught, archmages grasped mana on their own and learnt to manipulate it on their own.

Elves, the demon race, and the chosen dragon race were also all on the same boat.

'Since I was not truly a baby when I was born so my potential must be more difficult to gauge. Though it can be that I am a genius.... I am probably not a super genius.'



Sense of mana alone grants a person substantial potential in this world.

However Jiss evaluated himself without an ounce of bias.

‘There is no reason to have big expectations. Just because you have good leg movements doesn’t mean you will become an athlete.’

He observed the flow of mana in the body for a while.

When you gather mana and form a small house around the heart, you can be considered as the first circle.

By increasing the density of the mana and making the house bigger and stronger was the elementary method of magician growth method

The first circle can be considered as magicians, however this was a meaningless title since their difference in ability compared to the public was negligible.

At most they can cast light magic to make the surrounding area a little brighter or shoot down a bird with a magic arrow.

Jiss formed a house around his source of life, the heart, as other magicians do.

‘He said it’s good to envision a big and tough brick house. For material I

am to use both the world's and my mana.'

After he built the house of mana, he begin to absorb the mana flowing outside.

The density of mana in the elves' forest was higher than the outside world. Mana was also sucked into Jiss since he had the scent of the forest.

After a while, time it would take for a person to eat two bowls of ramen passed by.

Jiss looked inside his body.

Though he envisioned a brick house, there was small hut that seemed to be built by throwing a bunch of weed together.

A chancy house that looked as if it will fall apart right away if a rain storm came!

'There is a limit for a first circle so this was to be expected. As the house becomes bigger and stronger I will be able to withhold more mana.'

Withholding mana over one's limit was absolutely forbidden as a first circle.

If the house of mana were to collapse one would lose the ability to use magic forever and sometimes could even lose one's live

As Jiss opened his eyes lightly after completing the first circle, he saw countless of golden strings of light.

"Ora. What is this." (Zix: Ora is a questioning sound you make when you are slightly shocked.)

He thought a golden spider knitted a spiderweb or something since this was the elves' forest.

This thought lasted for a short moment and he was able to find out this was not the case.

They were on the walls and the ceilings and not tightly knitted like spiders webs.

"These are some strange things."

Jiss touched the strings of golden light carefully, while frowning his eyebrows.

– Fruits.... I am going to eat them when they ripen. They are gifts given by nature. I want to eat bitter tree barks as well.

– Nature is great.

– Emm.... I am an elf. It is good to be an elf. Since elves are the best.

"This is rather a familiar feeling?"

This time Jiss touched the strings of golden light that were also connected to him.

– oooahhh I am hungry. Well done meat and beer would be killers right now. Elves' forest is boring and has nothing to eat.

– Fifty four, fifty five, fifty six, fifty seven..... Kughhuk. Tired. Even so I must hit one hundred. Then another hundred!

– These elves of the forest sure live peacefully. I wonder if people from my hometown are doing well?

"What. This is just mind reading."

The Jiss's talent from birth.

Sure if Jiss desired powerfully, he had the ability to mind read even if the person was far away. However these strings of golden light allowed him to mind read targets far away simply by contact.

"But this is a little different. Is it making the mind reading more effective?"

He left the house after pondering for a while.

He could also see tens of thousands strings of lights crossing all over the elves' forest.

They were mysterious strings only he himself was able to see.

Jiss and the elves were connected by the strings and it was the same between the elves as well.

However there were no connections of strings between himself and the elves he did not know.

Strings of golden light formed between the living beings when some sort of destiny was formed between them.

'I don't exactly understand the principles.... but anyways, it allows me to read minds from far away. At the least I will never get scammed anywhere.'

Jiss decided to name this connection between the living beings the string of destiny.

Such a sunny day, the wind of the forest was calm but cooling and the sun was providing sunlight between the tree leaves.

'To be able to see such a thing.... can it be I am actually a God? My sense of mana is genius level as well. Nha. No. I shouldn't have such useless thoughts. Dragons live up to 10,000 years and even elves can live over 1,000 years. They say there is even a demon that can split the entire continent, compared to them I am nothing but a commoner.'

Jiss had to think of himself as nothing extremely special, since this world was lined with beings that could call thunderstorm and rain, and even call a hail storm.

At best he would be able to live in this world comfortably as a commoner, since he had an unique ability others and even elves didn't have.

Of course, although he was already beyond a normal kid.

## Part 2

The reaction from the party varied person to person after hearing about Jiss's success in handling mana and forming the first circle.

"Mana you say..... you should be able to hammer a little better now."

Nedhand praised Jiss.

– As expected the human growth is..... The little kid who used to smile innocently in dungeons already grew this much and learned to handle mana. I wish dwarven kids matured fast too. Only thing they learn early is how to drink beer. They sure are disobedient.

"It is an absolutely necessary factor if you want to learn magic. You have passed a great gateway."

Hereseh also made an extremely relieved face.

– It is good that he has felt mana. He has potential as a magician. In my case it only took 30 minutes to realize mana. Though his beginning was slow, if I teach him well he should be able to research high level magic.

"Congratulations."

Dark elf Grona congratulated him.

– I am glad.

Her feelings were not much different either.

“As expected of my son.”

Laurelle smiled brightly.

– I gave birth to a good kid. I need to also become a great mother.

“I heard you have realized mana.”

“Yes. Father.”

Rendall made Jiss lift up his sword.

“You can memorize magic now that you have sensed mana, however you can also say it is a minimum necessary quality you need as a swordsman. From now on I shall teach you high level swordsmanship as well.

Swordsmen absolutely needed usage of mana.

If you did not know how to handle mana, at best you would become a foot soldier and would not be able to travel around the Marka continent with freedom.



Of course grave robbing also became more dangerous.

-From now on I shall actually start training him seriously.

There was nothing bad about sensing mana as a swordsman.

Jiss had accumulated more mana in his body through training and soon he will be able to manipulate it.

This signified the beginning of his hellish training!

"Let's learn swordsmanship together during the morning and night."

Jiss has been training with Rendall when he strength trained his body.

Swordsmen fought by utilizing the mana in one's body to strengthening their physique or expelling it outside.

As for mages, they used their own mana as a basis to synchronize with the world's mana.

This required difficult mana calculations, management, and incantations, however the power of swordsman couldn't even be compared to a magicians' when their magic reached completion.

As for Jiss, since he has realized mana at an early age, he had an option

to choose an even more unique specialization.

Swordsmen must go through extremely rigorous training to increase the mana in their body. Meanwhile magicians must deeply research the magical studies to grow their mana circle. They also had to understand the characteristics of mana more deeply and joint research with other magicians.

Due to these reasons one often had to choose their path firmly, otherwise one may fail to become either one.

Normal people usually did not have the opportunity to learn swordsmanship, and starting as a magician was even more bigger of a dream.

However Jiss had the opportunity to learn both swordsmanship and magic.

‘Can I even consider this as luck? This is like telling me to become a professor at prestigious university meanwhile being a national level soccer player.....’

This meant he had to study and exercise at the same time!

High elf Lishiansus of course also knew Jiss had realized mana.

“I see.”

He wasn't surprised at all as if he was just told what bread Jiss ate for breakfast.

– Of course he realized the world's mana early, this brat already knows how to breathe the breath of the forest.

Elves are able to handle mana freely since they are born with the blessing of mana.

Thus it was more surprising to know a normal human such as Jiss could drink from the forest's breath.

If one becomes old and the body becomes rigid or the mind becomes impure, one becomes unable to drink from the forest's breath.

Jiss also probably wouldn't have been able to drink from the forest's breath, if he didn't have the ability to communicate with the nature at the elves' forest.

"There is so much more archery to teach if you know how to handle mana. What do you want to learn first?"

Lishiansus was thinking of teaching Jiss some special archery skills.

Arrows flew unbelievably faster at the target when one grasped the flow of mana.

When one's control over the flow and mana of the wind matures, arrows

flew unbelievably long distances and even the trajectory of the arrows were bendable.

Jiss answered honestly.

"I really just want to play sir. With Allium."

However Lishiansus was not an easy opponent.

"Yes. Let us first learn the basics of archery a bit more. If you want to learn the archery of the elves you will need about two hours a day."

"Two hours??"

"Does it seem too short? Don't worry. Even if the lessons are short I will just have to teach you well. Your body will also become stronger running around the forest to gather the shot arrows. It is quite a necessary exercise for a growing human like yourself."

"Though I don't I will be able to learn Sir Lishiansus's archery because it is too difficult?"

"Archery is a useful skill to know all around. If you learn archery somewhat for 70 years, you should become decent enough to carry a bow around." (Zix: Unrelenting Lishiansus, the ignorer of all questions.)

"....."

## Part 3

Yeonwoo's life as a 10 year old passed by without any irregularity.

He became 3rd grade in elementary school and his grades were not bad.

'Why do schools even teach us how live earnestly. Living by the books would only make me look like a fool.'

Jiss's siblings also grew up rapidly.

They just ate and pooped with a care in the world. The crybabies seemed like they were growing faster than potatoes and sweet potatoes.

"Big bro. I just need 20 cents!"

"Big brother. Buy me a headpin."

Yeonwoo whispered to them gently as he caressed their heads.

"When will you guys be able to take on roles of humans. Will that day even come."

It was worrisome to have younger siblings, but it would be lonely if you

did not have any too.

Yeonwoo also got along with his friends reasonably well at the picnic.

-Yeonwoo is so cool when he is looking far away.

-I wonder what he is thinking about. He will be telling me fun stories later right?

The sensational popularity amongst the girls!

However Yeonwoo was nothing but disappointed, since his standards were rising without limit due to living in the elves' forest.

One big change in his life in this world was that he had started going to English after school after his regular classes.

'Ah. I wanted to at least avoid going to after schools while living in this world.....'

A person would imagine, if they were to live two lives their opportunities will also double.

Since you could avoid the making the same mistake you have made in one world in the other, this could be seen as a blessing.

If the two worlds were vastly different from each other, one would imagine they could feel boundless freedom.

Yeonwoo also in reality learned and gained many experience living as Jiss in the other world.

However there were many suffering the dual life caused as well.

There were just too many different things one had to memorize in each different world.

One day Yeonwoo's mom asked him a question when he came back from the English after school.

"Between piano or kumdo, which do you like better?" (Zix: Kumdo is Korean swordsmanship)

"Well....."

Yeonwoo had a very difficult time deciding.

This was practically one of the most difficult moments of his life.

Facing an arrow flying towards his heart would cause less shivering than this moment.

– It is about time to increase his extracurricular activities. Still, he should be able to choose the one he likes more.

That was because the implications behind her words were obvious, even if he did not read her mind.

'Piano should be better. Since I am learning swordsmanship tirelessly in the other world already.'

"Piano please. I already wanted to learn it from recently."

"Aiyoo. I see. We should have signed you up earlier." (Zix: Aiyoo is a sighing like sound with indication of slight regret, disappointment, etc.....)

"I will just have to work hard on it from now on."

"I am so proud of you. My baby."

Yeonwoo gave her a bright smile.

He knew how difficult it was to raise four children on two paychecks.

"Let me just ask you one more thing. Do you like math more, or science?"

"Mom!"



## Part 4

The Civil war of the Gratesse empire kept growing larger within the Marka continent.

The fourth prince marched his army of the Roten kingdom, and the fifth prince allied himself with the Pleyisen race. An outrageous and insidious race with exploding strength.

According to the records left by the adventurer Chandler, the Pleyisen race were the worst evil beings residing by the swamp within the northeast portion of the continent.

Swordsmanship, Magic. They did not know how to use either, however they possessed god-given strength, merciless cruelty and hard thick skin.

Their negotiation terms were simple.

"We will help you if you give us land and allow us to eat any humans living in that area."

They possessed an ability which allowed them to exude even greater strength when they ate human meat.

The fifth prince pulled the Pleyisen race to his faction for the civil war.

Though they were not much of a use in large scale battles where the knights and the magic armors ruled, they were exceptional for taking over castles and cities.

Pleyisen race who devoured even the elderly and the children, were a true symbol of fear.

The king candidate had the order of the knights and the central army, the third prince held the army of the Grateess empire and initiated total war, and the provincial warlords were revolting in the sidelines.

The root of the Grateess empire, which held the political and the economic dominance for centuries, was shaking.

-----

Light morning physique training with Rendall.

"It is important to consistently train in the sword. We shall begin with a thousand sword swings every morning and night."

Rendall believed practice held the utmost importance.

If Jiss tried to fake having no talent in swordsmanship, Rendall would say the training was insufficient and would teach him until dawn.

If Jiss tried hard, he would say he is catching up nicely and would increase his training intensity. (Zix: lol no escape.)

Magic lessons with Hereseh began after breakfast.

"You will learn faster If you learn only one specialization, however you do not know what kind of situations you will face later on, so you should know how to use a large variety of magic. You will also have to study hard since many knowledge from other subjects are required for higher level of magic."

As Hereseh was a tomb hunter, he was a more interested in the practicality than the abstract compared to the magicians at the magic tower. Thus there were even more things Jiss had to learn more thoroughly. (Zix: You can't rob tombs with theories!)

The massive amount of beginner magic!

There were over 200 magic incantations in the first circle alone.

"You have to set a firm foundation. It is good to learn all of the first circle magic. If you ignore them thinking you don't need them, you will run across problems in those subjects later. At this moment it is not important to use magic right but better to study and grasp the characteristics of mana, and enlarge your house of mana."

Hereseh decided it is better to learn steadily now and learn all of the first circle, which will allow him to grow at a faster rate later.

Dwarf Nedhand praised Jiss who pick-locked a door after he avoided a trap.

“You have great observation skills. From now on, no ordinary traps should be able to catch you by the ankle.”

Unlike his preconception, it was easier to learn trap-disabling than pick locking.

Most traps installed in the dungeons usually were of simple structures.

This was because complicated traps took longer to activate, broke easily from things like humidity and also were more difficult to fix.

After he learned how to discover traps and which areas to watch out for, trap disabling has become much easier.

It was not difficult to destroy traps once you understood the trap's structure and few of its principles.

Jiss's ability to discover traps right away came from the experience he had earned as a baby, when he accompanied countless dungeons with the grave robbers.

He had been observing them with awe while they have been disabling dangerous traps like clockwork.

After Nedhand's lessons, Jiss ran within the forest while learning archery from Lishiansus.

'He said we will only train until sundown. He totally scammed me.'

Due to Jiss's teachers keep pressuring him it is important to play outside when you are young, his archery lessons ended up becoming longer.

"Do not hold your breath when you are aiming your arrow. Drink the forest's breath. Circulate it's vitality throughout your entire body."

He learned archery while running with the other elvish children.

Drinking the forests breath cured fatigue, lightened the body and cleared one's vision.

Jiss have become good enough to shoot arrows in mid jump while dashing between the trees.

Shoooshoooooshoooooshooook!

The five arrows he shot in mid-air fiercely penetrated through the tree branches.

The target was an apple tree 200 meters away!

Pahbaabaahbaaak

The five apples on the same tree-branch were penetrated in order.

“Very impressive for a human.”

Jiss sometimes heard Lishiansus’s praises.

The agility and the swiftness of elves were at a level beyond imagining.

In the forest the elves were even faster than a charging horse.

Though this does not happen often, they did not always used arrows for hunting. They had the ability to just run and capture animals such as boars and wolves.

‘Faster.’

Jiss ran with all of his strength while drinking the forest’s breath. He shot forward with great distance every time his feet left the ground.

He ran with lightness as he jumped over the tree stubs and barely grazing the grass.

He ran with speed beyond the limits of human beings and their common sense.

A plump female deer and her baby deers were running in front of him.

She was Robian, a quite famous deer in the elves’ forest.

She had rainbow color marks on her body and was known as the fastest deer in the forest.

The female deer was trying to hurriedly escape Jiss's chase.

The deer who were running fiercely, piercing the wind, looked behind them with eyes of despair.

A young human was chasing them with unbelievable speed.

They ran as fast as they can and tried to zigzag, but could not shake off the human.

In the end he completely caught up to them by the edge of the waterfall, where the violent streams fell.

– I am dead. I am going to be eaten.

The baby deer closed their eyes tightly.

The female deer Rodian also must have judged an escape was impossible because she also stopped in her tracks.

"To think I can run this fast..... Not as fast as elves but still what a cheat. fraud. Whooo. Still I am still quite thirsty after chasing them this far."

".....?"

Jiss walked past the mother and the children and drank the clear water from the waterfall.

Though the deer initially tried to get away, since nothing happened, they began to feel secure.

Additionally, Jiss's body also emanated a strong scent of the forest.

"There is a big snake in the area where you were just before so be more careful there from now on. It will be dangerous there until I barbeque and eat it."

Jiss slapped deer Robian's butt with his hand.

Pooohingg! (Zix: deer scream.)

The female deer ran away with her children with resentful eyes because she was shocked.

– Bad little brat. He just looked at me with shrewd eyes.

Jiss was dumbfounded but could not chase the deer any further. That would only increase the misunderstanding.



## Part 5

"Sir Nedhand and Hereseh are a little late." (Zix: This is Laurelle. She uses respectful way of speaking which is more noticeable in Korean.)

"That's right. They should have returned two days ago....." (Zix: Rendall)

Nedhand left with Hereseh to receive the items they had left at the city Terrace.

The lengthy settled life in the elves' forest was becoming intolerable for Nedhand.

He couldn't drink as much beer as he wanted to, and he did not have enough materials to make anything.

As for Hereseh, he had left to check on the treasures and the magic ingredients left inside the basement.

Even if it was a long journey which required at least 14 days round-trip by horse carriage, they should have returned by now.

Though Nedhand and Hereseh held exceptional abilities, it was still worrisome since the current state of the continent was in rubble.

"Nothing must have happened to them right?"

"There were no news of any mishaps in Terrace, so we will just have to hope that they are safe."

Laurelle and Rendall decided to wait a little bit more.

'I can't tell if something happened to them.'

Jiss locked into meditation.

'That means it is time for my ability to shine.'

Though he could not see the strings of golden light normally, they appeared when he focused.

Lines which disregarded all obstacle and distance and connected two living beings in destiny!

'I must find out about Sir Nedhand and Hereseh's situation.'

Jiss found the strings which stemmed from him.

If he used these lines, he was able to read the minds of people regardless of where they were.

-I didn't know Proeh gorge bridge was collapsed. It was probably because of the war. To think I can see the smoke rising from the burning

Volken castle all the way from here..... Just how many people have died.

-It is going to be annoying to go around with all this baggage. (Zix: It is obvious who is who haha.)

Jiss observed the map Rendall left. Since this was a tomb robber's map, geography and topography such as cities and mountains, as well as places to hide during an emergency were marked and described exceptionally well on the map.

This item, difficult to purchase even with money, had been created by Rendall's own accord.

'Still it is good that they are safe. Well, they would have been still fine even if they were sucked into a little trouble.'

He had been observing their skills even before he had a single strand of hair on his head.

They had already experienced many life-threatening situations, so no doubt they will be able to return safely.

Then 6 more days had passed.

There were still no news from the two of them.

Jiss once again read their minds using the strings of destiny.

– To think we would be trapped in an area like this. This is quite

problematic.

– It would not be good to be spotted by either side's army. They will have to be avoided as much as possible to protect the beer.

-We just needed 3 more days to reach the forest. Because of the soldiers on the plains, we cannot move forward.

-The humans the cave won't crave my beer because they are hungry right? Though I can give some to the pretty girl over there.

It seemed Hereseh and Nedhand were hiding in some cave waiting for the nearby army to leave the proximity.

"Nothing bad must have happened to them right?"

"It seems I will have to go purchase some information at a guild in a nearby city to check if something happened."

Laurelle and Rendall were nothing but worried.

Grona was quiet, but she also deeply wished for their return.

Being a dark elf, she did not have a village to go back to. Her comrades were same as family to her.

# Jiss's Activity

# Part 1

Jiss left to meet with Lishiansus.

Though they were safe now, Nedhand and Hereseh's safety were not guaranteed.

Lishiansus was the person who could fix this problem.

"I have a request to make sir."

"What is it?"

"Two people who are very important to me recently left the forest, and it seems they are in trouble not so far away. Could you please help so that they may return to the forest safely?"

– Are the humans that came together with this kiddo in danger?

Lishiansus was not a kind elf, who would accept requests just because someone asked desperately.

Lishiansus, with his long life experience, knew how to pull pranks and manipulate weaknesses to make demands as humans do.

"Why should I do that?"

"Because their lives are in danger."

"But they are not elves. Moreover, they are not my friends."

"I have learned that all lives are precious, regardless of their race. Are you not Sir Lishiansus who treasures even the animals in the forest?"

"Though that does not sound like something a meat-lover such as yourself would say. Fine. It is cumbersome but I shall rescue them, however let's increase the archery training time to 7 hours a day."

"Sir that will be too torturous for a young boy like me. There is a saying in the human world, reasonable training brings forth the best accomplishments. I have not seen even elves train that hard."

"From my experience, humans became better and better the more and more they were pushed. If you complain anymore let us pretend this conversation never happened." (Zix: Lishiansus senpai you so evil.)

Jiss had no choice but to comply with increasing the training time.

He had to practice archery anyways to prepare for the future. If he really wanted to rest, he just had to switch to the other world and come back later.

Life of an elementary student still had many opportunities to play

around.

Thanks to that Jiss's focus did not blur even when he had to train vigorously.

"Let us go sir."

"Why you as well? It is fine for you to wait in the forest."

"The one who made the request cannot afford to be lazy."

"Hm. If it is that kind of reason..... You may come."

Jiss knew exactly how strong of an elf Lishiansus was.

Jiss had faith nothing bad would happen in his company, no matter what situation may hit them.



## Part 2

"There are quite a bit of monsters."

Jiss and Lishiansus left the forest without anybody else.

As they crossed the plains and the mountains while drinking the breath from the vegetation, they discovered monsters.

They were about 2 meters tall, had dark navy skinned and were drooling obscenely.

Lishiansus recognized these beings.

"Those things are of the Pleyisen race. Annoying bastards. So they have come this far"

"What will you do sir?"

Jiss and Lishiansus were hiding crouched behind a hill.

"It seems there are about 700 of them. I don't want to waste my precious arrows. Let us avoid them."

"Yes sir!"

Lishiansus actually was able to shoot mana as if they were arrows.

It is said Pleyisen skin cannot be penetrated by swords, however Lishiansus' mana arrow was more than strong enough to penetrate and obliterate the Pleyisen.

Lishiansus chose to avoid the fight just because he found it cumbersome.

There were rarely elves that enjoyed taking the lives of others.

'It would have been such a good opportunity.....'

Jiss left in disappointment and took the big detour.

Lishiansus fighting, which he was looking forward to, rarely happened.

– I killed many Pleyisens with my friends in the past. Was it about 8000 of them a day? I should avoid pointless killing if possible.

"Keureuuk. Human meat is the most delicious."

"Isn't juice dripping raw meat more delicious than fried?"

"Nothing compares to fully boiled female elf meat."

"That was really delicious."

There were a bunch of Pleyisen race scattered and scouting along the boundary.

Lishiansus's eye sights were extremely sharp and his hearing was also extremely sensitive.

"Unpleasant bastards as usual."

"Sir?"

"No need for kids to know. If I was a few years younger, I would have swept all of them."

The Rognak army that destroyed the Volgen castle!

This was a deed done by the fifth prince of the Grates empire, Rognak, who allied with the Pleyisen race.

"It is going to take a quite a long time to pass by unseen, since there are so many of them. If you get tired tell me, I will give you a piggyback."

"It is ok sir."

He did not know what kind of spectacle would occur so he couldn't afford to ride on piggyback.

He also already experienced two lifetime's worth of piggyback already as a child.

"I am going to move rapidly so follow me well. Since I do not want to delay our time any longer...."

– If there are any bastards blocking the way, instead of avoiding them, I should just obliterate them.

His benevolence and mercy as a high elf were gone after listening to the Pleyisens' conversations.

There was another group of Pleyisen scouts passing by. To not be seen by them in the large plains, Jiss and Lishiansus had to take a big detour.

Lishiansus took out a bow from his back.

A long wooden bow with beautiful decorations.

"Let us just go forward here."

As Jiss expected Lishiansus shot an arrow without placing an arrow on the bow string. (Zix: He shot a mana arrow.)

Pewshoshook!

The heads of 8 prowling Pleyisen scouts exploded practically at the same time and the bodies below collapsed to the ground.

This happened right after Lishiansus barely looked at the enemies and released the arrow.

"Let's go slightly towards the right."

– I don't want to show such a brutal scene to a kid. Especially since human children have a sensitive receptive mind.

The mana arrows were not just piercing through the head or the body, but rather obliterating their entire beings.

'Oh yea! Now this is archery!'

This was Jiss after he saw the Pleyisen scouts about 300 meters away collapse on ground.

Ever since Lishiansus drew his bow, his expectations were overflowing

'Yes! How exciting. This is what I wanted to see!'

A spectacle innocent kids could only see in picture books!

Lishiansus eliminated all the Pleyisen scout groups that got in their way without a word.

– Their signaling system is horrible. It is going to take a while until the bodies are discovered. We should be able to enter the mountain range before then.

No enemies were fearsome to elves in a place filled with trees.

Lishiansus was a powerful existence capable of destroying the Pleyisen army even if he were to be surrounded by them on an empty plain.

Since it was night time, in reality, they could have just took a bigger detour and utilize the gap between the scout rotations to pass by.

However Lishiansus just indifferently charged through them and eliminated them

‘Get discovered faster.’

Jiss hoped for the Pleyisen corpses to be discovered by their comrades faster. Since that would cause the situation to escalate.

‘Was it Pleyisen race? What are these bastards doing. What is the point of scouting if they can’t find anything?’

Sadly, nothing happened as the excited hopeful Jiss passed through the Pleyisens.

This was because every time Lishiansus shot his arrow, all the enemies

simultaneously collapsed to the ground like toys without making a single noise.

Lishiansus also shot down all the scouts that were in the way simultaneously, thus they were able to reach the Proeh gorge safely.

## Part 3

"Big sister. We are gonna die."

"It will be fine. Monty."

"We will all be eaten."

"I will protect you. Sleep, even if for a little."

A little girl of about 13 year old hugged the boy two years younger than her tightly.

For refugees, they had extremely clean cloths and had no foul odor emanating from them.

The girl especially had unique mystical emerald color hair, which was not a common trait amongst commoners.

This was a trait the royal family or the high noblemen possessed after the rule of the first emperor.

She had her hair tied by a simple white cloth, however the determination and the strong aura her big eyes and her facials features gave out were not normal.



"We will definitely be able to escape from here without fail. And then, we will get our opportunity to enact our revenge. Monty. Even if you weren't to do it, I will without fail....."

The boy fell asleep on her bosoms.

His body and mind were both completely exhausted due to living as a refugee for over a month.

"Uncle Gillian." (Zix: Not blood related. Koreans have a word for middle aged men, which is kind of like uncle.)

"Yes." (Zix: He uses respectful 'yes' here.)

The man with the robust physique, who introduced himself as the girl and the boy's father to the others when they entered the cave, answered the girl politely.

"How long do you think we will be able to stay here?"

Gillian studied the inside of the cave carefully.

Other than them and their party, the strangers only included one more human and his dwarf comrade. He did not know of their identity but he did not have to worry about them.

This was because dwarfs were usually indifferent of power struggle between human and sometimes even showed antipathy.

"It seems we may remain calm for the moment in this hiding place. The cave is well camouflaged and it was naturally formed, and it is out of the field of view so this is a very difficult place to find. At the least, it will take the stupid Pleyisen race or the Rognak army around a week to discover this location."

"Then afterwards?"

"They will probably think we have already left the area and will look else where."

"Haa.... then some other poor place will be pillaged again."

The girl breathed out a deep sigh.

They been surviving off the deaths of the people who's been protecting them.

They haven't had a moment of comfort.

There were still about twenty people there protecting the girl and her brother, but this was not even one tenth of the initial number of the guardians.

"Please rest sir."

"Late night. Hope you will spend it peacefully."

Finally she tried to get a little rest.

Then suddenly the grass and the branches covering the cave entrance were cleared away.

The girl's face hardened, and the knights who were poorly dressed as commoners without their horses or equipments froze as well.

Then suddenly an appearance of a young boy and an elf, which couldn't have been anything but destiny!

"See sir? I told you they will be here."

"To think you were actually right..... how did you know. Can it be a coincidence of miracles. Or is this some vile trick of a plan you have set out for me."

"I told you it is the intuition of humans. A feeling. Don't you know?"

"Complete words of ridicule."

"Anyways, please let me play with Allium for a day later."

"A promise is a promise..... Fine."

The little boy was greeted cheerfully by the human and the dwarf who

were already at the cave.

The magician Hereseh and the dwarf Nedhand looked at the boy as if he was of an impossible existence.

"You.... How at this place..... did you tell your mother before coming here?"

At that moment, Jiss made a face as if he was hit on the back of his head.

"No. I came secretly. I will be killed if I am found out."

The girl and the knights had nothing to do but listen to their conversation dumbfounded.

There was no feeling of 'enemies' emanating from them at all.

Actually they were not even paying any attention towards the girls and the knights at all.

"Let us return to the forest sirs."

"Hm. There are horrifying beings outside loitering around that have strong appetite for humans. We were going to stay here until things settled down....."

"Sir Lishiansus promised to help us."

"Really?"

Hereseh looked at Lishiansus as if there was something wrong with him.

Elves usually keep a distance from humans and do not get along with them. However Lishiansus, peculiarly, volunteered first to teach Jiss archery.

To be able to learn archery from an elf, Jiss's parents confidently gave permission as well.

Then now he was at such a dangerous place without a single ounce of fear or the jitters.

Elves were normally known to be afraid of battles.

"Come here for a sec."

Nedhand whispered something to Hereseh.

The dwarf who had much longer lifespan than humans knew Lishiansus's true identity. He also remembered the worldly incident that occurred because of Lishiansus

"You sure?"

"Absolutely."

"You are not drunk right?"

"I can confirm for sure by looking at his wooden bow. Have you ever seen a dwarf fail to identify an equipment?"

"Couldn't he be an heir?"

"Looking at the life span of high elves, he is not of an age to be dead. Also there are not many arrogant elves like him."

Though he tried to whisper, Nedhand's resonating voice was not that silent.

Lishiansus and Jiss were hearing everything in the silent cave.

– Heh. Incurable dwarven race..... I wonder Lockhand who used to travel with me is still alive. He should be nearly about 200 years about now.

Then Hereseh stated as if he had reached a conclusion.

"If this person helps us, we shouldn't have any worries."

They repacked everything they had unpacked while they were living in

the cave.

Then the knights blocked the exit as Jiss and Lishiansus were about to leave.

Gilshiun spoke as the representative of the knights.

"It is regretful but you cannot leave."

Hereseh opened his mouth.

"We have to leave." (Zix: He used respectful way. Unrude.)

"If your party were to be captured by the Rognak army, we may become endangered as well."

"We will definitely not tell them anything. Though we will never get captured."

"It is too dangerous to let you go with only your words as a guarantee. At the longest it will only be a week, so stay here with us and let us leave when situation becomes safe."

The knights seemed as if they would even use force if necessary.

Then Lishiansus took one stepped forward with force.

"You humans. Move aside."

It was a battle of glares, which usually occurred before a fight

Gilshiun has met many strong beings in the past, and has learned swordsmanship from them or even fought them.

However the light of Lishiansus's eyes gave him a feeling of an unshapable, undefeatable being he has never encountered before.

It was not just a vague feeling of danger, but fear that he will be obliterated into thousands pieces if he decided to attack.

– Elf. No, he is a high elf. I knew they were strong but even if you say each race is different..... how can he give off this kind of an aura?

Gilshiun concluded no knights in the cave would be able to stop him.

Maybe if they used magic scrolls or used some other last resort they might have a chance, however such big commotion would attract the entire Rognak army.

"You may.....go sir."

"I appreciate it."

Lishiansus, Nedhand, then Hereseh left the cave in order.



Knights and the little girl were pondering on what they should do.

After they leave, the cave may become no longer safe.

Well the cave was never a perfectly safe place to begin with. They hid here because this was camouflaged well compared to outside, and it was less cumbersome to hide than risk being discovered by the enemy while traveling on foot.

What can they do if the enemies never leave the area. Their food supplies were running low and everything was in dire situation.

Jiss spoke after taking notice of their vexing situation.

"It is okay for you guys to come too."

"We are....."

The girl hesitated for a moment.

"There are people targeting us. I appreciate your concern but since you will also be endangered, you may go without worry."

"Whatever you want."

As Jiss was lifting his foot to leave the cave, he stopped once again.

'How annoying. This feels like I am committing a crime.'

He if he were to leave, they would soon be discovered by the Rognak army.

If that were to happen, Jiss and Lishiansus would be highly responsible for their capture.

As they obliterated much Pleyisen scouts, the scouts would race their security as well.

The knights planned to hide in the cave until the enemies left the area. However even if they were blessed with luck, not being discovered was an impossibility.

'Doing a good deed is not really my style.....'

However the opposite side was still a little girl and, excluding elves, she had more than enough potential to mature into the most beautiful woman.

'It should be fine to become a little friendly with her. Since there is no problems of danger whatsoever.'

Jiss spoke with his best cool voice.

"It will be best for you to come with me."

"Huh?"

"Honestly speaking I am not planning to put myself in danger just to bring you guys with me. So you don't have to feel indebted rather you come with me or not."

"Then why?"

"I am saying, even if you guys become dead weight, we won't be in danger at all."

"Do you think what you are saying makes any sense? The scale of the enemy that are chasing us..... Also how can I believe someone who I have just met?"

"I am nine years old."

"....."

The girl and the knights were shocked and dumbfounded.

When they re-evaluated the situation, they realized they had been listening to a nine year old kid so seriously.

If a high elf did not appear or the dwarf of the magician did not know the kid, he was someone they would have ignored completely.

"If a nine year old me can stay calm and not cry, isn't that enough of a proof of safety?"

"You are kind of lacking in persuasion. Are you trying to lead us into a trap?"

"For what gain would I try to lie to you. If I wanted to sell you guys to Rognak or whatever, I would have just brought them here to begin with."

The girl was puzzled at Jiss's speech which did not seem to match his age. However there was truth in his words.

"Aren't you guys being chased? I will save your lives so just follow me."

As the girl was pondering, she looked at the knight Gilshiun to ask for his opinion.

Gilshiun made a small nod. This was not because of Jiss's argument but rather because he was able to slightly measure up the unmeasurable Lishiansus.

He thought they might be able to escape the encirclement with the elf knight who had high level hearing and eyesight.

"I understand. We will follow you. Give me a moment, let me just wake up my little...."

"Hurry up and come out. I don't like waiting."

Jiss went outside of the cave.

The little girl mumbled as she awoke her brother and prepared to leave the cave with the knights.

"But I am thirteen....."

## Part 4

"The soldiers and the Pleyisen race are grouped there. We have to cross over there to reach the shortcut."

The knight Gilshiun stated as he was flat on the ground.

Gilshiun spoke after discovering about 5 to 6 enemies gathered around the bonfire.

"If we want to get away from here as quick as possible, we have to strike there. We knights can cause a distraction by giving them a frontal charge. How does that sound?"

Gilshiun asked after gathering courage.

Even for knights, fighting a race with cannibalistic custom was psychologically very difficult.

When they had to escape while watching their comrades being devoured, they even shed tears of grief.

He decided to become bait, with his life on the line, so that the girl and the others could escape safely.

Lishiansus shook his head at that statement.

"This is an easy task, so just stay there only watch."

He took out his bow and demonstrated with ease.

Peeewwwwwpewwwpewwwpeewwttt

Just as before, he shot a mana arrow invisible to the naked eye and gifted eternal sleep to the soldiers gathered by the bonfire in just one move.

The knights were shocked at the sight of the Pleyisen race, all collapsing at the same moment without any noise.

'Unworldly..... impossible.....'

'Even though they are vile beings difficult to challenge without a magic armor....'

After that Jiss lead the way and Lishiansus opened up the paths.

"Which path is next."

"I think the south path will be better sir."

"The reason being?"

"Because we came from the north."

"Isn't that conclusion too simple?"

"Enough time has passed for the corpses we have left behind to be discovered sir. I think many enemies will be gathered there now and are probably doing a search? Even if we think of a complicated plan, in the end we will have to go straight through somewhere eventually as well."

"You are right. Let us go south. The enemy line on the south line is also not that thick yet."

The knights made a dumbfounded face.

Lishiansus was teaching Jiss even at a place like this.

'Even though that little kid is just barely nine years old....'

'However there are definite truths in his words. Even though it is amazing they already pushed through the Pleyisen race before, the boy's decision isn't incorrect either. Though a wise general would focus on the opposite side as well, the core reinforcements will still be focused mainly on the north side.'

Lishiansus and Jiss traveled much far ahead from the rest of the party to eliminate the enemy and secure the travel route.

There were rather many Pleyisen race on the hillside. In their



headquarters alone had about 700 of them.

However Lishiansus found and suppressed even the stealthy scouts hiding crouched behind rocks.

It was a black night with even thick clouds in the sky, however Lishiansus's arrow did not know how to deviate from its mark.

"It seems we should be able to leave completely unscathed."

"It seems the bastards still cannot grasp our general location."

The knights began to have hope. Then suddenly, well passed the hillside, thick strings of light penetrated the dark skies.

Then the intense whirlpool of mana, which can be felt even from far distances!

"It's the magic armor."

"The bastards are summoning the magic armors already?"

Guuuhhhhhuunnnnnngggggg

Then the loud resonating sound of the rumbling came.

The knights of the Rognak army were summoning their magic armors.

As expected of knights of the royal family, the quality of their magic armors were of the highest grade. Alexander grade magic armor.

The resonating noise the activating magic armors made did not only have the ability to engulf surrounds monsters in panic, but also install them with unspeakable terror.

Night time, the stomping movements of the magic armor formed loud noises and earthshaking shock waves were felt along the ground.

"Please go ahead first. We will take care of things here. Jeron. Brodin."

"Yes sir!"

"It seems you guys will have to be the distraction."

"Glory to the Grateless Empire!"

The two knights moved forward. They had determined expression on their faces.

- So this is how I will be able to repay my king's grace.
- I want to see my family one last time. However I shall battle with my all and leave no regrets behind.

These knights also summoned their magic armor. As they were knights

once entrusted of protecting the palace, they also held exceptional skills and abilities.

Once honorable knights, were now baits prepared to deter the enemies' focus with their lives on the line.

Until now, they have already been surviving by leaving their tails left behind. Casualties were always an inevitability. (Zix: Like how a lizard would detach it's tail to run away from a predator.)

Jiss asked Lishiansus.

"Is it possible for you to go against a magic armor?"

"That is not going to be an easy task in the current situation."

"I think messing up their movement alone would be enough."

"Okay. That much is a simple task."

The little boy, little girl, and the knights leaned their ears towards Jiss and Lishiansus's conversation.

They have already been amazed ever since the fierce Pleyisen races were exterminated with ease. Now to think they are saying they can stop the humanities' greatest weapon, the magic armor.

- I have heard stories of how elves look down on humans. How can he joke around when all of our lives are on the line.
- The magic armor isn't just a simple large armor. Do they not know it is a product from an ultimate magic research? He probably does not know because elves only live in the forest.

On the other hand Hereseh and Nedhand didn't seemed shock at all but rather had interested expressions.

Lishiansus finally drew an actual arrow from his quiver. Then he asked Jiss.

"Can you see them?"

"Yes."

Even though it was a dark night, Jiss was able to see the movements of the magic armor under the starlight falling between the clouds.

The pure silver that was coated on the magic armors were reflecting the star light faintly. The noise from the magic armors' movements also gave off their locations.

Magic armor users completely ignored covertness since magic armors were weapons designed to completely overwhelm and obliterate the opponents.

Jiss read the minds of the knights riding the magic armors.

– Little rats, just wait until I find you. I will stomp on you alive. Kukukuek. It would be entertaining to watch the Pleyisen eat them alive as well. As for princess Aseulian, it is a waste to just kill her, I will be spending some fun times with that beauty.

– Master Rognak promised to promote me to the leader of the Gold Cross Knights if I take care of this mission thoroughly. If a man has ambition, he has to at least become a leader of the knights. Aseulian, I, Puel, shall claim your neck.

The identity of the little girl was princess Aseulian.

Even though he already had predicted she was probably of some royalty or a high noble, he was surprised nonetheless.

He had heard of her name before even as a commoner, because she was known around the empire for her beauty, nicknamed the 'white flower'.

'She still only just a princess.'

Jiss thought the Pleyisen race, who were recorded within the history of many empires, were much more impressive than the princess with superficial fame.

There was nothing noble about being a princess, as they were mere tools of setting alliances by marrying them off to some other noble or royalty.

'Sigh. It seems there are many kid lovers regardless of which world I am in. I can agree that she is pretty but, as a woman, doesn't she have much growing left to do?'

Jiss didn't think the knights were worth keeping alive.

"You may decide. Who do you think I should shoot first?"

There was still a great distance between them and the knights, so the magic armors did not pose a threat yet.

"The right one sir. He seems like a captain."

"Not a bad evaluation."

Lishiansus shot his arrow.

With such ridiculous speed, it seemed the rapid arrow seemed to have just vanished. Then there was already another arrow on the bow string.

Kooooooooongggg!

Sound of the knees of the magic armor hitting the ground was heard.

The defense of the magic armor is consisted of three layers of external steel shields and a magic barrier.

Unless participating in a total warfare between the nations, the users typically used only used one layer of steel for better movement. Even so it was rare for the actual magic armor itself to get damaged.

Lishiansus's arrow did not only penetrate the magic barrier but also penetrated the layer of the steel and penetrated the knee joint of the magic armor.

- How can this be.....!
- I cannot believe he was able to damage the magic armor with an arrow.
- Even if the armor was not wearing the 2nd or the 3rd layer, how can this be!

The first layer of the magic armor counts for about 20% of the magic armor's total defense. Even so, the magic refined steel shield was boasted of being able to withstand being hit by a siege weapon directly.

"This time that bastard, the one two from the right. His reactions were good. He is moving forward this way as if he felt something sir."

"I noticed as well."

The arrow left the bow strong and hit directly on the left shoulder of the running magic armor.

Kooooooooahhhhh!

Bright white light spilled out towards the sky from the magic armor. The magic core driving the magic armor had been damaged.

The location where the magic armors were illuminated brightly.

"The three of them gathered on the left side, do you think you will be able to hit all of them sir?"

"What makes you think that is a difficult task?"

Lishiansus spoke as if it was nothing but he slowly drew his arrow on the bow string.

To penetrate the shell of the magic armor to break it or damage it, a great amount of strength was required.

– It has been a while since I used my real strength in an encounter. Will this kid be able to learn anything just because he gets to observe me from the side?

This time Jiss widened his eyes and focused.

'I must watch carefully. I might be able to learn something life changing.'

The mana of nature near Lishiansus gathered to his arrow.



Enormous amount of power nestled within the arrow in a short moment.

The rally of the pure mana was shiveringly shocking.

The strength swordsmen earned when they reached the peak of their mastery!

The compressed mana's strength was extremely destructive, yet it maintained balance and did not deform the shape of the arrow.

Even as the arrow left the bowstring, it sucked in more surrounding mana as it flew forward.

Its power grew larger and larger as it flew and became unstoppably destructive.

The arrow that gathered much mana in the great distance finally hit the joint of the magic armor.

Jiss sighed lightly.

'This is something I can't learn just by watching.'

He somewhat understood the concept but had no idea how to recreate it.

'This is like showing me an airplane at the airport then telling me to create my own airplane.

Poooshooooooshook!

The air splitting arrows flew through the dark night and penetrated the joints and magic core areas of the armor.

Godlike accuracy and penetration ability.

The already assaulted magic armors summoned shields to protect their front.

The magic armors started to take much less damage from that point. However Lishiansus's arrows made impossible angles mid air and turned sideways or even fall straight down.

Though the magicians' flares brightened the sky, Lishiansus's arrows flew along the ground slithering like snakes.

"Just where are the arrows coming from."

"We cannot see them sir. Though it seems like they are hiding somewhere nearby..... Magician!"

"I command in the name of mana. Reveal the identity of the living!"

The magicians scanned the surrounding, but the magic did not detect anyone.

Not only Lishiansus and the others were very far away from the magic armors, elf magic allowed their presence to become one with the earth.

Though the knights would attack them like mad boars if discovered, they couldn't do anything because they couldn't locate them.

There was nothing magic armors could do to avoid the invisible arrows other than one method.

They were circling in their area like fools and danced, swaying their arms and legs back and forth.

"Keek!"

The little girl, Aseulian, laughed for the first time ever since she ran from the palace.

The eyes of the knights were also full of awe as they watched Lishiansus.

– He is a master archer you wouldn't even be able to find in the palace. If it is commander Raykahndor protector of the west of the empire, will he be able to demonstrate such power as well?

– Such skill.....! Am I witnessing a miracle today?

Lishiansus withdrew his bow.

“This should be enough. They are probably too dismayed to chase us now. Let us keep moving.”

It has been a long time since Lishiansus properly displayed his strength to humans. He also believed Jiss will seriously train in the bow since he showed him such a grand display of bow's power.

Lishiansus thought his display was sufficient. However Jiss regretfully was not too shocked from the whole ordeal.

‘This was obvious.’

This was because he already knew Lishiansus had amazing abilities.

After all, he wasn't nicknamed the ‘Silver haired executioner’ by the empire and the ‘Guardian God of the forest’ by the elves for no reason.

As long as long distance, darkness, and stealth were maintained, it was alright to have complete faith in Lishiansus.

“Let us go.”

As Jiss moved calmly, the knights were stuck with heavy feet as they were still shock from watching magic armors being repelled by arrows.

- Is this real life. Am I dreaming?
- Can it be I was captured and being brainwashed through some weird mind magic?

Though large amount of Pleyisen scouts were circling around, Lishiansus's mana arrow mercilessly eliminated any obstacle.

when they were looking for Hereseh and Nedhand, Lishiansus and Jiss used the elves' run by using the forest and the grass field.

This time to decrease traveling time, Lishiansus used the group movement magic, 'The Ultimate Sprint'.

This magic was one of the highest level movement magic series. Even by taking just one step, the user traveled a distance of 10 steps and when moved quickly, the distance and the speed traveled grew even more dramatically.

## Part 5

"Kay. I think this is a good point for us to take our separate ways."

Jiss said to the knights, the boy and the girl.

The Elves' Forest was just moments away.

It's been awhile since they had lost the trackers, and the knights also wouldn't be able to chase any longer without having to first visiting the magic tower to repair their magic armor.

It was now safe for them to separate and go towards their own destination.

The girl and the boy had already been wanting to go elsewhere before another encirclement was set. Jiss took the initiative.

Aseulian bowed towards Jiss.

"Thank you. I understood after escaping the encirclement, we would have been murdered helplessly if we stayed in the cave. Me, my brother and the people protecting us were able to survive thanks to your help."

"Its fine. I didn't even do everything."

Jiss did not speak to Aseulian with respect. (Zix: More obvious in Korean. In Korea there are two ways you can speak, respectful or casual. You typically speak respectful way to anyone older, someone with higher status and strangers.)

Hereseh and Nedhand, even the knights, thought it was absolutely acceptable.

If they had been properly introduced in normal circumstances, Jiss wouldn't even be allowed to stand and would have had to keep his head down. However the knights who received salvation did not enforce such rigid customs.

The empire's royal structure was already in shambles and they were unable to reveal their true identity.

It would have been ludicrous to enforce such customs now, after receiving such a help from a small child.

Aseulian removed one of the rings she was wearing and handed it to Jiss.

"I won't make foolish unkeepable empty promises nobilities, and keep it short. If the day comes when I can repay my debt, even if decades have passed I will repay the debt. But since I do not know if my situation allows even the sunlight of tomorrow's sun, for now I will atleast give you this ring. This ring is also a precious item to me. However it is still less valuable compared to me and my brother's lives, so you can sell it if you need to."

"I will happily accept it."

Jiss accepted the ring. It was a white gold ring, with a masterwork diamond embedded.

'Mother might like it if I give it to her'

He thought this amount of reward was granted since he had saved their lives.

This was also same as earning money for the first time for Jiss.

"Then stay well. Also thank you so much sir elf for helping us."

Aseulian and her little brother Monty thanked and gave farewell to Lishiansus as well.

The knights also thanked him for saving their lives, and expressed their wonder on Lishiansus's display of archery and magic. Then they begin to go their separate ways.

Their second meeting shall not come easily.

The lives of the knights, Aseulian and Monty may fall like withered leaves at any moment.

The Elves' forest was coming closer to Jiss's sight.



"Just a moment."

"What is it?"

"There is something I accidentally forgot to say, so I will give my farewell real quick and come back sir."

After receiving acknowledgement from Lishiansus, Jiss ran towards Aseulian and the knights.

"So there is something I have to tell you."

"What is it?"

Aseulian turned with a light hair flip. She turned with anticipation, just maybe the boy will give her a confession like how he has fallen for her.

"You can't really consider this as a farewell..... anyways try not to misunderstand and just stay still."

"Huh?"

Jiss touched Aseulian's surroundings.

He was circling around her and touched the air with his hands as if he was softly touching a thread.

Even though there was some distance between Jiss and Aseulian, circling around and waving his hands near her was a weird act nonetheless.

Even though It was a creepy act, even a nobleman would have been punished for, everyone stayed still.

This was because they had high expectations of the boy, who had a powerful elf as his companion.

– Kehuhu. Stupid bitch. She probably never anticipated such a day would come to the high and mighty royalty. To think she is crawling here by her own will. I shall pull out all her nails and teeth, jail her at the top of the tower, and play with her all her life.

‘Ehhhooo. Some circumstances you have.....’

Jiss looked at Aseulian with pity for a short moment.

As there were numerous golden light strings connected to her, there were a few with evil licentious intentions towards her.

And one of these strings signed a considerably dangerous situation that was soon to come.

However there were many people that cared for her as well.

– Ah ah. Kind and wise princess. I hope for your safety....

– No Princess. You mustn't come here..... Duke Anchulen has plans to do terrible things to you. Only if there was a way to let others know..... Sir knight Paohnick. If the princess were to really come, I shall lift up my sword for you even though my life is the only possession.

He was able to understand the gist of her situation by reading the thoughts focused towards her.

Such a convenient skill that allows long distance mind reading!

'So that is the situation. At the least there are still some people caring for her, so her situation is not completely hopeless. This is probably due to her virtue. Of course, her beauty probably was a big factor as well.'

Jiss spoke towards the girl.

"You are leaving to meet Duke Anchulen right?"

".....!"

Aseulian's eyes widened greatly.

This was a destination they had to keep secret even with their lives on the line.

"You!"

"Usually I shouldn't tell you things like this but..... don't go. If you go, you will die a wretched death. Or you will live a life worse than death."

"On what basis are you making such crazy assumptions?"

Aseulian coldly refuted but her voice was already slightly trembling.

"I rather not go too deep about the duke's secret inhuman hobby for the sake of our youthful mental health. Instead, someone you can trust more deeply and depend on is Marquis Tebode. You will be more safe if you were to go to him."

"Based on what can I trust in what you are saying?"

"Because I am but a nine year old who don't know how to lie yet."

It was not really an answer that boosted confidence.

However he also talked about how he was only nine in the cave, and really saved them after he told them to follow him.

As Jiss's mannerism depicted indifference, more strange doubts grew within Aseulian.

'Marquis Tebode. He is someone I have met only a few times when I was young and also does not involve himself with the central area.....'

Aseulian pushed these thoughts aside for now and asked Jiss.

"I will be even more indebted to you if your words are true. But why are you being so nice to me?"

"That is..... because you are pretty."

Jiss answered with complete honesty.

## Part 6

Rendall received information from the guild within the city, Ellim, which was nearby the Elves' Forest.

"The rumors that the Rognak army set the Volgen castle on fire were like waves. It seems Sir Nedhand and Hereseh are unable to return because of that situation."

"Honey. They are not the only problem right now. Jiss disappeared!"

"What did you say?"

After that Rendall, Laurelle, and Grona searched the Elves' Forest mindlessly hoping to find Jiss.

"Jiss!"

"Jiss. Say something if you can hear mom's voice."

The elves who knew Jiss also volunteered for his search.

Wolves and sparrows also struggled to find Jess all day by the elves' requests.

"Jiss. Jiss!"

Allium also searched all the little ponds and the hills she spent time with Jiss with tears flowing from her eyes. (Zix: Jiss you dawg.)

Then Jiss suddenly returned with Lishiansus, Nedhand, and Hereseh.

"Mom. Dad. I went outside of the forest and brought uncle Nedhand and Hereseh!"

Jiss did a good deed. Not just that, he had saved two close people who were in life threatening situation.

He had even sacrificed himself and promised to train archery seven hours a day!

He was pretty mentally exhausted since this has been a long time since he was on an adventure outside of the forest.

It was ill-fated that Jiss was too busy scouting the surroundings, thanks to that he was unable to prepare for Rendall and Laurelle's retribution.

"You little brat!"

"Jiss!"

Rendall and Laurelle were sprinting towards Jiss with thick rods in their

hand.

Even Grona was picking out the branches with the best elasticity.



# Hereseh's Growth

# Part 1

Yeonwoo's view of the world became deeper and more profound as he became 11 years old.

"It's already been 4 years since I entered elementary school. Time sure goes fast, it feel like it was just yesterday. So fast."

His relationship with girls also maintained fairly well as he got older.

"I better nurture them well. Though I did live much more longer than them mentally..... it isn't like I can marry aunties over 40 years just to match my mental age. I should be able to fish one of these girls later on."  
(Zix: Glory to Yeonwoo the Wise.)

When he told exciting stories of Jiss's adventure or of knights of the Marka continent, elementary students loved the stories crazily.

"Hey Yeonwoo. You know."

"What."

"So I have something to tell you."

"What is it?"

He also sometimes received confessions from girls with finely braided hair when he was alone.

"I like you. Wanna go out with me?"

Yeonwoo thought this was too early so he persuaded them with a straight face.

"I can understand your feelings. However things we like now can rapidly change as we grow older."

"No! I am different."

"Emotions are not so simple like that. So like when you walk into a convenience store you want to eat Dukkobokki right." (Zix: Dukkobokki is a popular Korean snack food. It is spicy rice cake covered in sweet red chili sauce.)

"Uh-huh. I want to eat it. I even ate it yesterday because it's so yummy."

"But while you eat it you can get tired of it too. Wasn't there a time you left the store, leaving leftovers?"

"Ye..yeaa... I stop eating when I am full."

"Yup. It is like that. We are still young. As we grow older we will have different values and different aspects of life. There will be times you will pull in efforts to reach your goals and there will be times you might even

meet someone you really like. You will easily end up forgetting someone you barely knew from elementary school in a short time."

"Oh. It's like that?"

It was not hard to guide elementary school girls towards the right way.

He had high expectation for the future but for now, he couldn't even imagine dating with these tiny little children.

He also watched the news on the television to have a deeper understanding of this world, uncharacteristic of an elementary student.

"It is worrisome how I am going to survive in this world when I am old. They are saying social security is unstable and..... Will there any left by the time I become old?"

Since he was still not of age to be worrying about the elderly life, his concern was still only at a level of minor interest.

Other than that, he attended elementary school without a single worry.

No one bothered him since he was Han-Cheuljae's friend and the school subjects were still manageable.

If by chance a question he did not know appeared on the test, bookworm Kim-Hanjin was in his class.

-Studying is so easy. Kukukukeut. I want to become a scientist in the future. I want to release many journals from research and claim patents then become successful. Then when I get hired by a company, my salary should also be unbelievably high.

Kim-Hanjin, even though only a elementary school student, focused on his studies burning in fiery passion.

'Ruthless, inhuman..... seriously it's those kind of kids that really make it big.'

Kim-Hanjin was at a level where he would never get a question wrong on a test, and for early education he was already learning English and Japanese on the side.

"Here, at least drink some strawberry juice while you study."

"Thanks. Friend."

"Nha. It is also good that I can have a good friend like you."

Yeonwoo always placed Kim-Hanjin on the pedestal while saying embarrassing things. It was also fair to say Yeonwoo was pretty much Hanjin's only friend.

Yeonwoo also played with him during break time and ate together during lunch time.

He also used Han-Cheuljae's network of friends so that no one would dare to bother him.

– Yeonwoo is really a kid you can look-up to in many ways.

The thought of an innocent child who couldn't see the darkness in Yeonwoo's heart.

Books do not contain all of life's teachings. Kids who studied well surprising had many naive parts to them.

Anytime there were questions Yeonwoo didn't know on the test, he has been easily raising his grades by reading Kim-Hanjin's mind.

Burning with passion but not knowing he was being exploited by the kid he considered his best friend!

Yeonwoo spent his elementary school life snacking when he was bored and taking naps.

Since he amassed considerable mental stress on the other world, he had to take plenty of rest here.

He also craved meat the more time he spent in the Elves' Forest.

"Porkbelly, hamburger, sweet and sour pork, pizza, hotdog..... Em. Fried chicken, it is fair to say it is the world's best discovery. This world is amazing too."

You are done at a restaurant once you finish eating.

However, fried chicken stores not only delivered food anytime you wanted them but also offered coupons!

Due to his parents worrying about his nutrition and his siblings turning into voracious eaters near fried chicken, he couldn't eat fried chicken easily. He told himself when he gains independence he shall become a regular at a delicious chicken house.

This was one of Yeonwoo's greatest goals in this side of the world. (Zix: Yup, some of you guys may not know but us South Koreans LOVE fried chicken.)

## Part 2

The year he had spent as Jiss in the Elves' Forest was filled with nothing but education and discipline.

This was because there was nothing else much to do in the Elves' Forest and the group found pleasure and a sense of accomplishment teaching Jiss.

"It is important for a magician to know how to utilize mana quickly. This is because there are often times your life depends on the completion of your spell. If you were to approach magic only on paper this wouldn't matter, however it is very important when you traveling the world and fighting enemies."

By Hereseh's teachings, Jiss succeeded casting a 1st circle spell.

"Fire Bolt!"

Strands of fire fell upon the rock Jiss was pointing at.

"Ooooooh. It's working."

The magic effect that left after leaving a pitch black mark on the rock!

It was possible to melt the rock altogether if the magic proficiency were



to be higher however that level was beyond reach at this time.

"There are many dangerous beings outside the forest. You can say the sword is something that can protect you at any moment. Let us drill the foundation of the Hehant empire's swordsmanship today."

"Yessir!"

As Jiss's physique grew larger from his growth and training, he also became more used to handling the light wooden sword.

Rendall knew the foundations of various swordsmanship because he had traveled many parts of the continent, and also worked as a mercenary before.

Usually one would focus on a subject they are more talented towards, rather it be swordsmanship or magic.

However nobles often took up the sword because they had to manage the knights under them, and regular folks often chose swordsmanship as well since it was easier to pick up.

This was because magical studies was a subject that required endless amount of investment.

For Jiss, he showed promise in both magic and swordsmanship and the level of promise between the two were nearly indistinguishable.

"This brat is a magician. His understanding of mana is exceptional and his house of mana is also very sturdy. It is still not definite since he is still a beginner but he definitely has the innate talent to grow into a high level magician in the future."

"Swordsmanship is all around the better choice. He hasn't shown full potential yet, however he should be talented in swordsmanship from birth since he has my genes. Also he wouldn't want to live trapped in the magic tower forever either."

"How can you compare that to being trapped. It is every magician's dream to be able to research within the magic tower. There is nothing boring about digging through the enigmatic laws of the world and realizing the rules of nature."

Whenever Hereseh and Rendall met, they argued about what Jiss should specialize in like housewives.

If Jiss were to show more promise in one area, it would be easy to choose his specialization.

However since he showed reasonable promise in both fields, both sides were reluctant to concede.

Both of them wanted to show each other how Jiss had more potential in their field, so Jiss's training intensity kept growing higher.

"I want to make some things out of the materials I have brought from outside, so let us push back the lessons for now. Since you also became

very proficient in finding traps, it should be fine to delay the lessons for about a year. By the way, if there is some beer the elves crafted, can you get me some?"

It was still fortunate Jiss did not have to receive blacksmithing lessons from dwarf Nedhand often.

"You can say accuracy is the essence of the bow. No matter what the movement, you have to accurately hit the target."

Lishiansus's education continued as well.

Neither Rendall or Hereseh were the epitome of magic or swordsmanship.

They were steadily teaching Jiss by setting themselves as benchmark and the extent of their expectations reflected on their own talent.

If you were to just compare Jiss and Hereseh's understanding of mana, their skill level were similar. Jiss also gained plenty of resourcefulness and experience from minding reading Rendall during combat.

You could say they were like home tutors who did not realize just how clever their student was.

However Lishiansus was different.

He was a high elf.

## Part 3

With superior athleticism and wisdom, high elves usually easily learned any skill. They also seldom forgot anything after only hearing it once.

Even amongst them, Lishiansus stood as the historic genius of archery.

“It is cumbersome to keep explaining so I will just demonstrate. This is the method of making the arrow change its direction to hit the target. This much is very simple right?”

The lessons that were way beyond Jiss’s level was not only difficult for him, but would have been difficult for an elf as well.

As Jiss learned archery, Lishiansus also assigned him difficult assignments as he reached new levels.

“This is nothing for the great potential that lies within human beings right? Since you should be able to do everything, it must be your efforts that is lacking.”

Even though Jiss could read minds, that did not mean he was free from feeling embarrassed.

– Humans I observed throughout my long life never did manage to be skillful in archery. The human limit cannot even be compared to that of an elf. The limit of human archery is just shooting far and fast, so it isn’t even

comparable to a elvish child's. Still, this brat is managing to climb up somewhat.

Lishiansus felt satisfied as Jiss's skills matured.

– Humans don't have superior physique like barbarians or have great fighting spirits like the orcs. They also cannot live in harmony with power like elves..... Just exactly why did I decide to teach him again? Hm. There is one thing humans are greater at than any other races. They are good at accepting others and easily get along with other races.

After meeting and encountering countless humans, Lishiansus also met couple individuals that could have been considered geniuses.

– You shouldn't associate the word 'impossible' with humans. If someone were to achieve something new, chances are he or she is probably a human. From the moment when he drank from the forest's breath which humans usually fail to do..... It was then I was able to see a bit of potential squirming within this human boy.

Lishiansus's thoughts were fine but the problems lied in the other elves' minds.

– Human doing archery. Hm. He sucks.

– It's going to be bad. He will probably fail.

– You cannot teach a fish how to fly. If an elf has to practice once, a human would probably have to practice a hundred times.

To not be pushed over by the elves who looked down on him, Jiss spent

countless hours training vigorously.

Lishiansus's arrows were shocking but they were still not miraculous.

First he would claim a large surrounding area as his territory.

Instead of only limiting himself to only his body, he ruled the mana of the surrounding area.

As the arrow left the bow strings it absorbed all the surrounding energy and mana, such as the mana of the land, the mana of the wind, the mana of the sun and the mana of the forest.

Adding penetration, fire, water, illumination, and such elements to the arrow was done through this process, and in reality the arrow's prowess increased the longer the distance it traveled.

But of course that wasn't to say the arrow could travel an infinite amount of distance.

The principles of the bow were similar to of magic, however the difference came from speed and the pin-point destruction the arrow possessed.

This is how the Pleyisen race lost their lives from a mere bounce of bow string.

Only reason a mere arrow was able to make the magic armors collapse

was because the arrow was enchanted with mana!

Jiss searched endlessly just what level of archery Lishiansus really possessed.

Rendall's swordsmanship and Hereseh's magic were impressive too but they were nowhere the level of Lishiansus.

The kind of a gap where if they were to be enemies on the battlefield, they would be slaughtered before even being able to see the face of their enemy!

Jiss somewhat understood the core of Lishiansus's archery but his body couldn't follow it at all.

"I have to to explode the flow of mana in an instant and force it out accurately. It's simple in words but it's totally not working. Ugh."

The world wasn't so easy.

## Part 4

Aseulian and Monty arrived at the Marquis Tebode's territory with the protection of the knights.

"Do you think we will be fine, Princess?"

"I am not so sure. However just as that kid said, I think the possibility of this place being safe is high."

The party with only 11 members behind, in tattered appearance, painted just what kind of struggle they have been going through.

It was difficult to completely believe in Jiss's advice, but she still decided to gather background information on Duke Anchulen.

She paid honest looking merchants to go gather rumors within Anchulen's territory.

Even though the duke's territory was not a part of the Gratesse empire, it was a well closed off area.

"There is a rumor if girls over 6 but less than 16 would disappear then reappear as corpses after a few days. It is not possible to completely verify this information in such a short amount of time, however it seems this is Anchulen's hobby and it is heard his wife enjoys bathing in the girls' blood."



“He is widely recruiting soldiers and also expanding his military forces. According to the residents, he is planning to invade a nearby territory soon.”

There is a limit to how much information merchants can gather while trading. However if the rumors were like waves, it was fairly difficult to find it false.

Also if it wasn't true, why would anyone spit of such horrible rumors on his territory.

Out of his territory, the rumors of him being a great knight and a honest noble was terribly falsely spread.

If he was gathering troops even before Aseulian and Monty had arrived, this meant he was already planning to take advantage of the Gratesse empire's civil war and increase his territory.

Aseulian was late to realize if she and Monty were to arrive at the duke's territory now, it was highly likely they would have been used as tools of negotiation with the third prince.

“This place is unsafe. Let us seek refuge elsewhere sir.”

“Princess. Most nobles are already standing with the other side.

No nobles were free from the civil war.

Though she had no one else to trust, one name came to her mind.

"What kind of person is Marquis Tebode?"

"There is not much known about him milady."

"We cannot afford to stay here for long so please gather information about him as we head towards that direction."

So then they made it all the way to Marquis Tebode's territory.

It was known within the palace that even though Marquis Tebode's territory was vast, the territory was struggle due to high density of monsters.

However when they arrived they saw nothing but citizens working on the well organized field with bright expression on their faces.

This was a scene you wouldn't be able to see if they were indeed being invaded by monsters night and day.

"This is completely different from what was known to us. Princess. What is your decision?"

"We have to maintain etiquette as guests so please go let the Marquis know of our arrival."

"But ma'am we have yet to find out of the Marquis's intentions."

"Sir, look at the condition of the land and the faces of the citizens. An evil person would not maintain his territory such a way. Also isn't there no more place we have left to run to?"

".....I understand ma'am. Reto. Go to the castle and announce them of our arrival. We will also soon head towards the castle."

"Yessir!"

Gilshiun, Aseulian, Monty and the three surviving knights began to head towards the castle slowly.

If the Marquis's soldiers and the knights decided to set up traps after the messenger announced them of their arrival, Aseulian's party was surely doomed.

All their money have been depleted and the knights were full of old injuries. Their magic armors were severely damaged from various skirmishes so they were no use either.

Even though the Grateess empire was vast, they had no place to go since everyone wanted their lives.

"Welcome. You have suffered much coming all this way. Princess Aseulian. Prince Monty."

Luckily Marquis Tebode warmly welcomed the party after receiving information from the knight.

"Thank you so much for welcoming us, Sir Marquis."

Aseulian was in tattered cloths from the trip however she dusted off herself a bit then lighted greeted the Marquis.

'It has been long time.'

There was warmth in Tebode's eyes as he looked at Aseulian.

There was actually a deep relationship between Tebode and her mother Alsharete.

Though she was married off elsewhere due to her family's decision, the duo's feelings never left their hearts.

With his outgoing personality and abilities he managed his territory with vigor and stepped into the stage that is the central government.

Even though it wasn't often, he was able to secretly meet with Alsharete.

"Since there are many onlookers here, let us go in side. We have prepared supper for your party."

“Thank you we have been a bit hungry. Thank you sir Marquis for your hospitality.”

Tebode’s sights were mostly focused on Aseulian. Though he did look at Monty every once in a while, his expression towards him was nothing but indifferent.

## Part 5

11 year old Jiss.

Through difficult training he raised his inner mana and learned to use first circle spells proficiently.

Proportional to his age and rate of growth, first circle was the highest a person of that condition would be able to accomplish.

His growth was comparable to how much a top student of his age at a magic tower would accomplish.

Jiss being able to pick up on magic theory ever since in an infant, and being surrounded by mana of the Elves' Forest also contributed to his growth.

"Even though I should be playing right now, all I am doing is training to death!"

The days went by fast as he trained various swordsmanship with Rendall.

The feeling of training until drenched in sweat and then bathing in the clear pond. This dedication still felt blissful.

He was also able to dry himself using simple wind spells.

As he got to play with first circle magic, his curiosity for high level magic grew as well.

'Just what is the limit of how far a magician could accomplish? Is an archmage really an existence, who can even change the laws of the world? Though I am taking magical studies, I cannot see the limits.'

People in this world were completely different from the people from the 'real' world, who just studies topics like math and english to receive better remuneration.

Power!

Since there were many undeveloped places left in the continent, many strived for power to take advantage of the vast land.

Even regular citizens in this world lived with a fiery sense of competition and constant fear of death in their heart.

Their love was more fierce and they battled with passion.

People fell in love in a single fiery night, and also put their lives on the line for that same love.

Jiss also liked the way mercenaries lived roughly in this world, as he learned from Nedhand's stories.

There were many more emotions one can experience in this world compared to the peaceful reality.

The world was a dangerous path if one was too weak to survive alone. On the other hand, power gave great opportunities to thrive and earn respect.

Thus unlike reality, being humble or showing kindness to the weak were all unimportant in this world.

Power was Law!

Since he also lived 11 years in this world, the time spent in this world became quite a big portion of his lifetime.

"Understanding the distortion of space of mana is really important. Since understanding the magnitude and space of mana is key to reaching the 6th circle from the 5th. Hm hm. It is also necessary for short-range teleportation and warp circle spells."

Hereseh's magic abilities was in stand-still in the 5th circle.

After reaching the 3rd circle in the magic tower, he left to travel the continent and reached 5th circle through self-study.

Jiss was still fatigued from sword training until dawn, so he asked dryly.



"What is space?"

"The Elves' Forest we are in now, or the city Terrace you used to live in, and the Grateless empires. This entire world, where flowers bloom and animals run around, is space."

"Then space is ground?"

"No. It isn't such a small meaning such as that. Not just the ground we are stepping on, you also have to include the sky where the birds are flying and the clouds are flowing. You can even consider the distance between you and me a part of space."

Jiss stealthily yawned.

When magicians meet they do not drink alcohol. They have heated discussion for four straight days then magicians fall asleep one by one.

Of course the disposition of the elvish magicians were also very different.

Since they accepted all of the law of nature as they were, they didn't really enjoy discussing magic theories.

As Jiss lived in two separate worlds, he also possessed much more knowledge he would have compared to his physical age, so he did not hunger for knowledge.

He would have plenty of opportunity to learn more as he would continue to live two lives.

Jiss asked with an uninterested expression.

"Why does distortion of space happen?"

"The land and the sky. And everything that can exist in this world. When mana overflows a completely empty space, the state of that space begins to warp. Through intricate equations, stern willpower and mana control, one can grasp and control distance and space. This is why magicians also refer this to as 'Overflowing the space'."

"But why does the space have to be empty?"

"That is, try to grab the space in front of you. As you can see nothing is being grabbed."

"Is it empty just because I can't grab it?"

"Huh? That is..... there is mana everywhere. Since everything in this world requires mana to exist."

Hereseh was attempting to explain his best but Jiss was half-heartedly listening.

"Then space just has mana then."

“That isn’t necessarily true either. There is light where it is bright, and you can smell flowers and trees in a forest like we are now. You see, we can also breathe because there is air around.”

“But you said before this space was empty.”

“You’re right. Why did I say that? A truly empty space is extremely difficult to create even with magic.....”

– Why is space empty? I always thought subconsciously, if I wanted control over space I just had to fill it with mana..... Mana flows everywhere. And if even the space I am in right now is filled by something..... It seems I will have to reevaluate my understanding of the world.

Then in a few moment, mana began to vacuum into him like a storm.

Through his new found realization, his rise from the 5th to the 6th began.

A person can be considered a high-mage from the 6th circle. Of course to be called an archmage, one would have to at least reach the 7th circle. One could also develop a new magic but that was difficult to do even during an entire lifetime.

However becoming a 6th circle magician was nonetheless extremely impressive.

This was an event rarely occurred amongst the mercenaries.

"Eh-hueeee~. But I am only the 1st circle....."

Jiss decided to seek sleep, not wanting to bother Hereseh.

## Part 6

Jiss grew up a bit in his time in the forest. However he was still a little kid compared to Allium.

The face and the slender body of a young elvish woman was more beautiful and awe inspiring than any scenery.

"Eh~hueeee~. Though I got some rare free-time today since uncle Hereseh had some other research to do..... It sucks Allium can't come out to play because she is busy."

His magic lessons have been reduced lately so Jiss had been walking in the forest alone.

How enjoyable would it be if he was walking through this tranquil path where the birds are singing with Allium.

He also realized the significance of the golden strings as he lived two lives.

Destiny forms between two people when they first meet or learn about each other. Then it slowly dissipates as thoughts of each other begin to leave consciousness.

However the golden strings also sometimes disappeared quickly.

The strings of Aseulian, Monty, and the knights also began to turn invisible after a month and disappeared.

For people who experience big events often or people who held great power, their strings cut quickly.

"I feel like there should be a complicated fundamental reasoning behind all this.... If their destiny has been changed considerably or they hold great power to change the fate of others, do the strings last shorter? Or is it because my existence is completely insignificant within their destiny?"

Jiss decided to not think too much about it.

Realizing the laws of nature was something only you can attempt once you at least become an archmage.

It wasn't like he had time to read minds of everyone he had encountered anyways.

It was more important to read minds of people he knew well or at the least encounter regularly.

Jiss noticed a 3 tailed fox as he was walking towards a small fountain.

It wasn't rare to find an animal with a special trait in the Elves' Forest which was full of lifeforce.

Fox was walking while shaking his fluffy tails as if something good just had happened to it.

Jiss, who was bored, decided to read the fox's mind.

-Kukukuk. Everyone is so stupid. They sure are foolish. No one knows there are inexhaustible amount of the forest's most nutritious herbs growing near this valley.

'Herbs you say.....'

– Roots that make my body strong and help my tails grow when I chew it and eat it whole. It works so well when I am hurt and even makes my fur shine silky when I eat it..... Kukukuuk.

The fox who only knew the secret himself, began to leave the area satisfied.

Jiss headed towards where the fox was originally with quiet feet and some distance between himself and the fox.

"The fox said it was here somewhere....."

There were nothing but rocks scattered around the fountain.

"Do I have to go more up?"

Jiss followed the upstream of the fountain and went more up. He even had to do some rock climbing.

After about 30 minutes, he noticed a peculiar area covered by leaves and branches.

"Seeing how there are fox hair on the ground, this should be the right place."

When Jiss cleared the shrubbery, he found a cave too small to enter while standing.

Usually small dark caves such as these were dangerous because a small monster could pop out from it.

"So this is when this spell is useful. Light!"

Jiss used magic to illuminate the cave then entered it. Then he discovered a field of yellowish white flowers.

"This is it."

He saw this herb once before in Hereseh's encyclopedia.

Below the flower laid the Locklenah root which grew while producing mana and lifeforce.



These roots valued 300 gold pieces each and they were hard to come by unless the person was of noble birth.

"One, two..... Just how many are there. It looks like there are at least 40."

A satisfied grin cut through Jiss's face.

One can sometimes find rare herbs within the Elves' Forest.

Jiss was able to eat at least 100 different kinds of medicinal herbs following Allium around in the the forest.

Rendall had a headstrong part of him so he only valued self-training over nutritional consumables, but Jiss different.

It wasn't bad at all to get some help from food, when they helped him strengthen focus and willpower.

He gladly ate anything no matter how bitter it was if it was good for his body.

"Growing boy like me have to eat especially well. Training is important but good nutrition is priority. It is hard to even see meat in the forest so it is up to me to take care of my body."

Jiss uprooted the herbs with an experienced manner and chewed them well for easy digestion.

The roots were bitter enough to paralyze inside his mouth, but he gladly tolerated the bitterness for the sake of his body.

"It feels like I became a little stronger? This herb's effectiveness is quite good, looking at how it must have aged quite a bit. These herbs lose effectiveness if uprooted for too long. I better eat them before they lose nutrition."

After eating the herbs even without dusting the dirt off the roots, there were just 3 roots left to gift Rendall, Hereseh and Laurelle.

He excluded Nedhand and Grona, since their races have many opportunities to eat herbs such as these.

"There is barely enough for growing boy like me to eat....."

Jiss spotlessly searched the cave to confirm no more herbs were left then went outside.

Jiss momentarily encountered the same fox near the fountain, but he acted like he didn't know anything.

"Burrrrrrrp!"

## Part 7

12 year old Yeonwoo. Time flew by and he became a 5th grader, a senior in elementary school.

He grew older like clockwork but without anything special to do, he spent his days laid-back.

School was still at a level where he just had to do homework and this lifestyle was as easy as eating cooled rice porridge for Yeonwoo who had a mental age of 20.

'You really have to lay-back and enjoy your time when you are young. It is so good to not have any responsibilities as a child. I guess you can say this is the blessing of teenage years.'

He ate delicious food until he was full then went to sleep. Even though his mental age was older, like his young physical age, he still liked foods like dukbokki and hamburger better.

He was a little more plump than other elementary school kids but he didn't worry too much.

He would need to train only the tenth of how much he trains as Jiss, and his body would still turn lean and muscular.

Still it was about time when he would need to start planning for the

future in this world.

‘What kind of job should I get later. A scholar maybe?’

Yeonwoo shook his head sideways.

‘I don’t really care about setting any foundations in this world. It’s just not as interesting as what you learn as a magician in the other world.’

But he didn’t want to become an athlete either.

‘If I train a bit and strengthen my muscles and senses I will should be able to become a baseball, soccer or a basketball player. Or I can lay back a bit and play golf. But I already do plenty of physical activity in the other world.’

As he lived two lives, he had two life experiences.

He did not want to live both lives in such a similar fashion.

‘Is there something else? Something new?’

Yeonwoo thought calmly.

There were many things he was able to do in this developed world, solely utilizing his mind reading powers.

It wasn't like understanding someone's feelings like a psychologist but being able to read the person's honest inner thoughts, which was extremely advantageous.

'I should be able to become a cop and capture criminals right? But it will probably be impossible since working conditions are usually bad for the police and I am not much for patriotism.'

It was easy to live somewhat well in the modern world just by studying moderately.

It may be difficult to live a stable elderly life in the future or a wealthy life, but if you were healthy, average life wasn't so bad.

Compared to the other world where people starve to death and were sold as slaves, at the least there was a welfare system here.

'Though freedom and happiness in people might not be comparable.....'

Yeonwoo decided he will plan as he lives than to set grand ambitious goals from the beginning.

He figured he will find things he will want to do as he attends junior-high school, high school, and college.

He thought it wasn't so bad to just live an ordinary life like the others until then.

'If robbers ever break in, I will just have to break a few limbs. If gangsters ever hit my younger siblings..... Hm, I can just make a bow and wipe the floor with them. Life is simple.'

Of course his way of thinking was already beyond the realm of ordinary in this world.

'I feel like Cheuljae will own the streets even when he grows older. Hanjin recently changed his goal to become a chief judge in the future.'

He had been already making a list of talented friends.

Life becomes easier if you have many well-off friends.

Yeonwoo already realized from elementary school, South Korea was a network outsourcing society.

'Jinsang has a good personality and fun to be with. His looks are also not bad so he might become an actor. Sungman is ordinary in every way but his family owns conglomerate real estates. There is nothing definite like land and since he is an only child..... huhuhu. Now Doyle is a little problematic.'

Amongst the kids Yeonwoo was most friendly with, Doyle was the most difficult to predict.

His father was known to be engaged in a very special business, but

when Yeonwoo used the strings of destiny, he learned that he was actually an assassin. (Zix: Lmao.)

He wasn't some simple thug who operated in the back alley. He was a specialist who served in the western army as a mercenary and even received special training from special forces.

'No matter what happens I must never fight with him. Children quarrel can turn into fight amongst the parents, so even he hits me I will just withstand it.'

Of course Doyle was a quiet kid anyways and he never caused trouble or acted out.

Doyle was a little similar to Yeonwoo as well.

He was also a boy who lived in a different world from a normal elementary kid.

'If I didn't know how to read minds, I would have just dismissed Doyle as some regular kid. I probably would have not remember him as well.'

As school was still relaxing, it was actually his home that was hectic.

"Sir Brother. Please grant me your assistance with my art homework."  
(Zix: In South Korea, older siblings or older people sometimes make younger people speak very respectful. In this case it is like a semi-joke.)

"Denied."

"Brother. You know Sungmi right? So I am going to write her a confession letter. Can you teach me what to write a little bit?"

"No. Way."

Yeon-Yool, Yeon-Taejin. (Zix: Yool is the girl asking for art homework and Taejin is the boy.)

His younger siblings constantly came to him and bothered him.

"Teacher told me to draw a painting of mom and dad! But I don't know how I should start at all. Can master brother teach me a bit? Em?"

"Just draw two stick figures."

"Wuuuueeeehhhhnggg."

"I am planning to confess by this week and go out with Sungmi. Please help me brother."

"She goes to the bathroom too."

"Keuuuk. That is impossible! I've never seen her go even once!"

"Haah. That means she might have severe constipation. And what



makes you think girls are so special. She will probably tell you to buy her a new bookbag first. Nowadays girls don't even meet with you if you don't have money for Dukbokki."

"Huuk!"

Yeonwoo, an older brother who mercilessly stomped on his younger siblings' innocence.

His older brother Hyunin, who was already in middle school, was fast becoming a delinquent while chewing on gum greedily.

Looking at how he often comes home late after playing with friends and missing after school lessons, Yeonwoo could clearly see the way his brother was going.

"This is a tragedy that happens when a working couple has four children and they don't have time to monitor all of them. His progress isn't that bad yet so I should keep my eye on him and see if he will come to a self-realization."

Yeonwoo didn't feel any sense of urgency concerning life in this world.

Compared to the training and the fear of death he experienced as Jiss, this world wasn't dangerous at all.

Kids also rarely died in this world unless they caught some extreme illness.

So Yeonwoo decided to leave his older brother alone for now, and interfere when he really needed to.

"It's so peaceful. I can't get beat up and get my bones broken here, unless I encounter a kidnapper or something."

Doyle was a special case with his dad as well but, Yeonwoo was the true rare existence who was living two lives.

As he was only 12 years old, he was excited for what the future has in store for him.

It was same for his life as Jiss as well. That world was filled with dreams, adventures, dangers and challenges, so that place was even more heart throbbing.

As he lived without care in this world, whenever he entered the other world as Jiss, even the sound of the wind was clear and full of life.

# Beginning of Experience

# Part 1

"Spells of the 2nd circle are mostly simple. You can say they are higher grade versions of the 1st circle spells. However there are still new topics, such as granting magic to objects, so you still have to study them very thoroughly. You are able to become a high level magician only when you have thoroughly beat in the basics."

Hereseh looked at Jiss, who had recently become one year older, with a fond expression.

It is very difficult for one to seat amongst the magicians. Unless you are of noble birth or of a skillful mage, exceptional talent was required.

Also even with exceptional talent, one needed to know to seize opportunities.

Magic was not a subject just anyone could easily pick up on.

Even after picking up magic, one also had to pour painstaking amount of effort to raise one's magic circle.

– I guess I did start teaching him from a young age. It was really uncertain if he was going to understand magic well even as I was teaching him..... To think he mastered the 1st circle in just 4 years, he really followed through the lessons well. Though some geniuses finish the 1st circle within a year or two at the magic tower, that is also because they glimpse over subjects that aren't their master's specialty.

In Hereseh's eyes, Jiss now had a solid understanding in the basic fundamentals of magic.

Usually beginners of magic try to understand magic through their own common sense and calculations.

This is because the ways of utilizing mana is very difficult and the topics covered in magic were almost of fantasy.

However Jiss was able to understand magic as they were, instead of attempting to define them in his own logic, and also showed promise in magic research equations.

When it came to the 1st circle, his accomplishments far surpassed even the students of the magic tower.

This would have been impressive even if it took Jiss several more years.

Still there were weeds of magicians who were stuck in the 4th and 5th circle, so only time would tell of Jiss's true potential.

"You have mastered the basics of magic very well, however the upcoming lessons are going to be even more important. You must understand that all great foundations are set solely for what is to come afterwards. Just because there is a solid foundation, construction of a grand structure is not guaranteed."

Hereseh was very stingy when it came to giving praises.

Intelligence is the very first prerequisite of becoming a magician. Because of this reason, most downfall of magicians was due to their self conceit.

There were far too many accidents that occurred, when magicians rushed their research in cockiness after receiving too much praises and being called a genius.

"The 2nd circle you are going to learn from now shouldn't be too difficult since it is an extension of the 1st circle. The 3rd circle also should be relatively easy depending on how much effort you put into it. Ask me any question without hesitation as usual when you have something you do not understand."

"Yessir."

Recently Hereseh's method of education changed also. After Hereseh's lectures, for the other half of the lesson, Jiss leisurely read magic books then simply asked Hereseh any questions he had.

The 2nd circle magic had many mysterious magic that influenced objects and the flesh as well.

Fire starter sword, Rapid tree growth, Muscular strength reinforcement, Pain reduction, and so on.

Jiss was completely captivated by magic.

If first 1st circle displayed a power level of 10, the 2nd circle at the minimum was a power level of 30 and went as high as 120.

Jiss couldn't help but get excited..

"Magic truly is a mysterious field full of power. What will happen if I master the 9th circle?"

There were no real reasons to ask Hereseh this question.

When Hereseh reached the 6th circle from the 5th, Rendall, Laurelle, Grona and Nedhand had a modest but a highly celebrated party.

It was to an extent where Nedhand took out all his hidden beer stash, saying how this was a worthy event to celebrate even though they were in the Elves' Forest.

If 5th circle mages had abilities to assist their allies on the battlefield, 6th circle mages had the power to ruthlessly bury the enemies on their own.

6th circle mages had the power to heavily damage and incapacitate the cavalry and the archery line on their own, so they alone had the ability to change the outcome of the battle.

Of course the situation may change if the foe is a royal knight of the empire, however regular foes and monsters were of no challenge.

"Hm. There are many ingredients I have to gather to master the 6th circle magic."

Hereseh began his research on the 6th circle magic. Since he did not have a master to turn to, learning a whole new magic was not an easy task. However this was a most enjoyable past-time for a magician, so Hereseh couldn't even tell time was passing.

He thoroughly read the research materials he had gathered until now, and sold the treasures he brought from his house in Terrace to buy new research papers.

He also borrowed elves' magic records, telling them he needed them as a reference.

During this time Jiss read 2nd circle magic books.

"Understanding growth of the living, Mutual utilization of the body and mana, Substance alchemy, Hoooah. To think these are the basics of the 2nd circle.....! It wasn't a lie when people said magicians have to study until they die."

There were mountains of books size of thesauruses.

Magic wasn't just arranging mana in a certain way, but also understanding core principles behind it. Otherwise not only failure in magic was guaranteed, one often suffered mana reflux.



"It seems I have no choice but to study."

One saving grace was Hereseh wrote explanations on difficult parts of the book.

The reason Hereseh believed Jiss to be a magic research genius was thanks to Jiss having double life experience.

Jiss had mental capacities, critical thinking, objectivity, and discipline unfitting of his age of 12.

Not only his older mental age was assisting Jiss greatly, the time he spent learning magic was not short as Hereseh thought either.

Since he had been mind reading Hereseh ever since he was an infant, magic was not a mystery when he actually started to receive lessons.

'Well it is the 2nd circle but.... there is nothing completely strange or things I don't understand completely. Though I will still need some time to completely master them.'

He also continued to train physically with Rendall as he studied the 2nd circle.

Mana of the swordsman and magician differed.

After realization of mana, magicians store a portion of their mana into their house of mana and use their will power to synchronize with their

surroundings.

Mana resided almost everywhere and was often flowing.

Magicians tapped into that same flow to create miracles.

The house of mana acted as a mediator between the flow and the user. Of course it is also more advantageous to have a bigger house as well, however the size of the house was something that only scaled with one's realization of mana.

On the other hand, swordsmen attempt to fill their entire body with mana through training and meditation.

To surpass the limits of their body, they needed consistent effort and training to store mana in their body.

'Euugh. This is like death. Joining the the army in the other world is probably 100 times more easier.'

Rendall was a overly protective parent.

He believed power was the only way Jiss could survive through dangerous situations in the future, so he raised him with an iron hand.

"Put more strength into your arms. Enemies on the battlefield don't wait for you because you are tired. Swing your sword properly even if you can't catch your breath."

Jiss swung his sword according to Rendall's instructions.

Over thousands of swings in standing position!

The fact that his mother Laurelle was a priestess was truly a curse during training.

Jiss was always cheated of his breaks since a single prayer from Laurelle instantly healed any injuries or muscle fatigue.

'This is completely absurd.'

The second Rendall's training ended, Jiss collapsed on the ground like a weed.

"You can only use high level swordsmanship when you can feel the mana within your body and utilize it. The methods of high level swordsmanship is a little complicated however it is just as hard for the opponent to block it."

"Yes. Father."

"Still, it seems like you have accumulated quite a bit of mana, even though it's only been a few years since you first felt mana."

Jiss had accumulated a large amount of mana from all the herbs he ate in the Elves' Forest.

It was actually the setting and the food Jiss ate that had a bigger impact than his training or his physical talent. Of course Jiss was still more talented than the average knight trainees near his age.

He may be an average elementary student in the other world, but here he could be considered a future genius worthy of high expectation.

"Practice Hard Jiss."

"Yes."

"You will definitely be able to become a swordsman greater than I."

"Yes. Father."

A practitioner of the sword couldn't help but feel envious towards the knights in this world.

Due to most of the magic armors being possessed by the nobles, it was pretty much impossible to obtain a magic armor without becoming a knight.

However Jiss had no interest of becoming anyone's knight. After observing grave robbers all his life, there was no way he would be able to live a life of servitude.

'Throwing away life for honor..... that doesn't seem very right. But I

guess I also feel that way since I also live in a more advanced civilization half the time.

Jiss would rather become a merchant traveling the world than become a knight.

If he were to become a knight, he would spend all his life doing sniffy work and die as an expendable.

## Part 2

Rendall had been observing the state of the Gratesse empire through the information guild in the city Ellim, nearby the Elves' Forest.

As the war between the princes continued to become exacerbated, cities burned and castles crumbled.

Also since refugees were wandering everywhere, crime became prominent and bandits thrived.

Because even the archdukes aggressively intervened for a chance to benefit from the whole ordeal, there wasn't even a feel of the war ending during the last couple years.

"So you're saying a magician's dungeon is a day's worth of distance away from here....."

"Yes. It is by the Earl Parker's family, and people are saying recently grey fog came into the area and they started to hear weird noises."

"Then it seems there is a good possibility of there being a dungeon."

Rendall and Laurelle made a happy face as it's been a long time since they had any work.

Magicians prepare various magic to protect the entrance of their laboratory.

As most magic had expiration time, eerie developments often occurred. just before they dispelled through nature's providence.

"Anywhere is good. As long as I can get out of the Elves' Forest."

The bored Nedhand was also fired up by the rare occurrence.

Nedhand made farming equipments to pick fruits from trees to ease his boredom.

As dwarves manufactured even the minor-est equipments as if their lives were on the line, having trouble picking fruits due to short height was a big problem for the dwarf who had a big ego.

Though the well made equipment was abandoned, left leaning against a wall only after a few uses, was still a shining masterpiece.

"The Earl Parker Family was quite advanced in commerce, so much trading used to occur there. I want to go as soon as possible."

Expectation also rose within Hereseh as well.

After reaching the 6th circle he wasn't able to do much research he desired, due to the lack of ingredients and documents.

Being in the Elves' Forest made it hard to retrieve ingredients as well, however the war engulfed outside world was just as difficult.

This was because the empire forced magicians to participate in the war regardless of if they wanted to or not.

"If the dungeon's protection magic is about to expire, that means at least 100 years must have passed. I should be able to gain some valuable knowledge if we can salvage magic books of the past."

Laurelle opened a map and marked Earl Parker's castle and villages in black.

"But by the way, Parker's Castle and big towns were engulfed by the civil war and have become destroyed. There aren't much residents left either."

Nedhand made a frowny expression.

"How appalling. Was it the Pleyisen race's doing?"

Just the thought of the Pleyisen race was enough to ruin the flavor of beer.

"Yes. It is truly unfortunate for the residents there but since armies no longer have any reasons to go there, there shouldn't be any interruptions."



Rendall summarized the situation.

"We do not know which magician resided there before because it has been such a long time, and it is also difficult to retrieve any information due to the war. I would like to get to the area before making any decisions, does everybody agree?"

Nedhand and Hereseh nodded their heads with great enthusiasm.

"I concur."

"Let us go."

They looked glad to get moving, as if aching from not moving for too long.

Grona was already packing luggage for the trip. The only problem was Jiss.

"You stay in the forest and continue your training. Don't even spend one day lazily."

"I also want to go sir."

"It may be dangerous."

"But I have been traveling in dungeons ever since I was a kid."

"The situation now is different from then. The world is in a disarray right now so safety is not guaranteed. You have just experienced this recently."

Of course Jiss planned previously to play with Allium everyday if he were to be left in the forest alone. However it was such a waste to miss out on an adventure in the outside world.

Compared to when he was just a baby and just barely walked around, he had grown up substantially and even knew how to use 2nd circle magic.

His swordsmanship was also at a level to treat a goblin like a plaything, and of course his greatest ability was his archery.

The archery he had learned directly from Lishiansus was uncomparable to Rendall or Nedhand's arrows.

"Honey. Let's bring Jiss as well."

"But...."

"If things begin to look dangerous we will just have to explore a little less aggressively. Sir Hereseh also reached the 6th circle and there are barely any people that can catch up to Jiss's run alone."

He was even fast enough to match the dark elf Grona in the forest. Of course this was only for a short moment due to his endurance.

"I can also guarantee he will not get caught by a non-special trap."

"If it is Jiss, nothing rash will happen."

Jiss was able to participate in the adventure thanks to Nedhand and Hereseh's assurance.

## Part 3

Jiss light heartedly headed towards Lishiansus and Allium's hut.

Lishiansus was handcrafting arrows.

"It seems something good happened looking at your expression."

"Yessir. I am going to travel to the outside world."

Jiss explained how he was going on a dungeon exploration.

"Hm. A magician's dungeon..... sounds entertaining."

It looked like Lishiansus was also showing signs of intrigue. It had been a long time since he had traveled to the human world, as he only spent his time in the forest teaching elves.

"We are only going to explore the dungeon and not much else. We should be back shortly."

"I see. Though I have to go to a human city as well. It seems I will have to come along next time then."

Jiss wasn't about to let Lishiansus come along, seeing as how Lishiansus

always caused an incident whenever he left the forest.

Though Jiss did receive help from him last time, Lishiansus ended up completely disabling magic armors into junk.

The event was big to an extent, waves of soldiers and Pleyisen race covered the land around the center of the incident.

If it wasn't for the civil war, the central knights would have figured out the truth of the situation.

Allium looked at Jiss with her clear eyes.

"You absolutely have to go?"

"Yup."

Jiss was planning to feign-stop her from coming and 'reluctantly' let her come along.

"Come back safe."

".....kay."

Allium, typical of an elf, had a 'cool' personality and didn't try to stop Jiss.

'When I come back I'm gonna play plenty of 'doctor-patient' and 'newlywed' with her.'

Lishiansus took out a bow from his house that was slightly smaller than what he usually used.

"I have something to give you. This was just finally completed recently. It should be better than the one you have been using for practice."

"Thank you very much. I will use it well."

Jiss skipped the whole 'fake deny the gift as a principle' and just quickly accepted the bow.

Elves generally fell behind dwarves when it came to creating equipment. However when it came to developing bows, they were second to none.

After receiving the bow, Jiss noticed the bow was heavier than his usual equipment.

"Sir. This does not feel like wood. What is this made out of?"

"It's the horn of the beast that was rampaging in the forest recently."

"The Moregis sir?"

The Morigis was a monster that resembled a rhino.

"I was going to give it to you after some more training, but now is probably a better time seeing as you are traveling outside. The bow string is also made of the Morigis and you should be able to shoot further thanks to its greater elasticity."

"Ah. I see."

"Be careful. With your skills, you should only be able to take out at most 6 grey wolves or so."

"Yes sir."

A grey wolf is a powerful monster, where victory wasn't guaranteed even for the experienced mercenaries.

Only a qualified person like the experienced Lishiansus was able to talk about the wolves this way.

A bow grants immense combat prowess on an empty plain, where the user is granted panoramic vision.

If there is plenty of distance between the user and the wolf, the user can capture the wolf by shooting its large stature as target and use the elvish steps to increase the distance between them.

Since grey wolves are seldom found in dungeons, there was no need to

worry about them.

It wasn't favorable to use the wolves as guard dogs, as they disliked darkness and required much sustenance.

Though very elite magicians sometimes did have hellish creatures or chimeras to guard their laboratories, these kind of dungeons were extremely rare.

When a magician reached the mastery of becoming one of the the empire and the magic tower's best magician, the magician received preferential treatment and gained disciples.

The issue was whenever an elite magician died, the first to visit the dungeon were the disciples.

They destroyed all of the dungeon's facilities and hoarded all of the research materials.

The conflict between the disciples during this time was serious to an extent where even murder was common.

Due to this predicament, masters often tried their best to hide their final resting place and laboratory, but most of the time they were discovered either way.

It is said a magician's greed for knowledge is so great, when their master grows old, magicians ardently wait for their master's death.



## Part 4

"It's been a long time since last seeing a wide plain. Sound of birds chirping ended."

"Earl Parker's territory is that way. We should be able to arrive there before the sunset."

"Kuahhh. I feel alive again now that we are outside the forest. It would be perfect to just rest while gulping down beer."

"We can stop by the alcohol store in Ellim on our way back. We should buy alcohol even if only ones left over are farmer brewed."

"I like that also. Sounds good."

Rendall, Laurelle, Nedhand, Hereseh, Grona and Jiss exited the Elves' Forest.

Jiss acted as the guide when they were in the Elves' Forest.

He had traveled much of the forest playing with Allium and running around while drinking the forest's breath.

The true reason Jiss knew every nook and cranny was to eat as much herbs he can, but Rendall and Laurelle's heart felt warm from Jiss's

dependability nonetheless.

"Honey. It looks like Jiss is all grown up already."

"It seems I can increase his training intensity from now on."

The scene of Jiss running around lively while drinking the forest's breath and holding the bow, made Nedhand break out in horselaugh as he stated how adorable Jiss was.

The group exited the Elves' Forest where it was closest to the Earl Parker's territory and traveled until nightfall.

They had to find the dungeon as fast as possible, because it was better for grave robbers to not get detected by anyone before finishing the excavation.

"Hm. It seems the wavelength of mana has become unstable in this direction."

Hereseh spoke after observing the flow of mana in the sky after arriving at the Earl Parker's territory.

His search range had become much wider than before as he was now a 6th circle magician.

Of course if the protection magics were still active, it wouldn't have been this simple to find the dungeon.

"Is it far away?"

"No. About two hour walking distance."

"Let us go."

The party sighed in astonishment as they walked in the dungeon's direction.

The fertile land that was filled with wheat and barley just one or two years ago, was now filled with overgrown weed.

There were human skeletons everywhere and amongst them were even the skeletons of women and children.

"Seeing how there are less male skeletons, it seems they were drafted and died in combat elsewhere."

"Looking at the conditions of the skeletons, it seems some of the children were eaten."

"It's chilling."

Laurelle covered Jiss's eyes from the cruel scene.

It was her motherly desire to not let her still immature child to witness a

scene shocking enough to scar him for the rest of his life.

"My child. You cannot see this."

"Yes. Mom."

Jiss took peeks between Laurelle's fingers and saw piles of skeletons.

'Hm. So I will become like that if I get captured by the Pleyisen race.'

He almost had no fear concerning the corpses.

He had witnessed tons of corpses of monsters and humans already, ever since he was piggy backing on Grona's back as a baby.

Fear of death and danger was even less significant in the reality world. Dangerous events happened but they were still of rare occurrence.

However in this world, death was unpredictable and prominent.

Though the pursuit of power was an entertaining aspect of training, the true reason he trained hard was to live as long as possible.

'Will the Pleyisen race boil me? Nha. They are simple minded so they might just fry me.....'

As the night came, the party traveled while thinking useless thoughts.

They walked over the land as the skeletons resonated blueish light.

It was extremely dark as they did not light any torches and the wind produced weird noises as it shook the grass and the trees.

Everyone had an eerie feeling, but they were able to endure it as they were experienced grave robbers.

This was because there wasn't much of a difference between corpse and merchandise display for grave robbers.

Jiss was also at an age to know what was truly scary.

'Nothing is scarier compared to mother Laurelle's nagging.'

Hereseh continued to search for distortion of mana.

"It seems it is near this vicinity. The way mana wavelength is lightly spreading here looks like rapid magic deterioration."

The entrance of the dungeon was located past two mountains from the Earl Parker's castle.

Not only the dungeon was well hidden in the mountain range where people usually didn't venture into, it was extra difficult to discover due to the protection magic.

The entrance to the dungeon appeared like a miracle when Hereseh pushed away the unstable mana.

"I will enter first."

"Let us go together."

Rendall and Nedhand stepped into the dungeon with their weapons out.

Jiss also took out the bow he had received from Lishiansus as a gift.

'I should use it if there are monsters. I should be of help with this.'

He also had a sword on his hip.

It was a sword Rendall and Laurelle bought from a blacksmith.

Grona looked at Jiss proudly, as she thought of how the small boy she used to piggyback is now all grown up. Grona also took out her bow.

She made a proposition to Jiss.

"Do you wanna make a bet?"

"What kind of a bet?"

"Who hunts more monsters. The loser does the dishes."

"Sounds good."

There was nothing more foolish than making an archery bet against an elf. However it was doable against dark elves who specialized more in the spirit arts or offensive magic.

Not to mention he also learned archery from the continent's best archer Lishiansus, accuracy and distance were also not very important in a dungeon compared to just rapid firing.

Jiss and Grona entered the cave as they escorted Laurelle.

"The door that hides truth. Make the visible, invisible."

Hereseh entered lastly after casting a phantasm magic on the cave entrance just in case, to deter any possible intruders.

## Part 5

"Be careful."

"Time is not of an essence, so you can take your time."

Jiss slowly approached the traps he discovered in the dungeon to disable them, as he received words of encouragement from the party.

There were traps installed on the walls and the floor in this dungeon. There were some that activated via magic, but there were also considerable amount of mechanical traps.

First time grave robbers often questioned why mechanical traps were needed in a magician's dungeon.

However mechanical traps were quite useful.

It was normal for magicians, who normally researched alone, to be wary of intruders who aimed for their treasure and research.

If the intruder happened to be a single talented magician, apparatus such as arrow traps proved to be quite effective defensively.

Even if a thief or a dwarf was in the mix, mechanical traps were useful for providing precious time to prepare for combat or to flee the scene.



Magicians were also able to cast offensive and defensive magic circles beforehand then activate them.

From a magician's point of view these traps acted as protection for research records, materials, and corpses, however they were used more reliably to protect their livelihood.

"At least two of the three strings connected to the trap are fake..... No. Looking at the precision of the other traps hm. All of them could be fake also."

Jiss found the string that actually activated the trap hidden under a rock. It was a trap that hurled venom when pressure was applied.

"The trap can be deactivated by neutralizing or sealing the venom but that is silly and takes too much work..... Lets see."

After lifting couple more rocks, he found a part of the string that was knotted. The trap was able to be deactivated by untying and tying the string to the ring sticking out on the side.

In places like a magician's dungeon, most traps were usually made able to be temporarily disabled for the residence's convenience.

"Hm. Great work."

Nedhand nodded his head, as Jiss completed his task spotlessly.

Magicians were not trap experts so their mechanical traps had much sloppiness to them.

They may have installed traps with their smart heads, but you can say they lacked the finishing touch and the ability to hide them well.

The place with traps truly difficult to disarm was a high noble's grave.

This was because they spent considerable amount of money to hire specialists to install dual or even triple step traps.

However most traps were safely dispatchable as long as they were discovered beforehand.

This was because grave robbers endlessly improved upon their skills.

"Then let us keep moving forward. Looking at the equipment, the magician seemed to have been considerably skillful."

"It seems like it wasn't a waste to come all the way here."

"Hope we make a good killing today....."

The exploration continued.

Jiss and Nedhand both looked for the hidden traps, and Jiss had the

role of disabling them.

This was a great grave robbing learning experience for Jiss, since old traps often did not activate correctly or became practically harmless due to old age.

After walking for a while, Nedhand was awed by the dungeon's size.

"This dungeon is considerably deep."

"It seems it has been over 20 minutes since we came in the dungeon. The magician's magic power must have been great if he was able to dig this deep."

Grona had great interests towards magicians.

Like Hereseh, She was also able to cast simple magic as she was a Dark elf.

"There may not be much treasure since magicians have the tendency to have their own unique desires. However I am still curious to what research this magician was doing."

Hereseh's expectations were growing due to the grand size of the dungeon. Then Jiss stopped the party as they were just about to turn a corner.

"One moment."

"What is it?"

"What is going on?"

"You can stop if you are scared. You did well already coming this far."

"Let's rest a little if you are tired."

Rendall, Nedhand, Rendall and Grona who expressed concern for Jiss after he spoke but a single phrase!

They trained him intensively during practice, however in real time, they didn't want him to force himself where it was dangerous. However these weren't the reason why Jiss stopped.

– Eliminate all intruders. Eliminate all intruders.

This was because a strong will was being transmitted from ahead.

# Kid Rescue

# Part 1

'This doesn't feel like a person..... And it is only repeating the same simple-minded will.'

Hereseh nodded his head after Jiss hesitated.

"You have done well to detect the anomaly and stop. It is necessary to stay alert and continuously observe the flow of mana. I will take care of this."

Hereseh was first to turn the corner. Then a single floating sword appeared before him!

"I see it is the flying sword spell. Even during my time in the magic tower, many magicians memorized this magic praising its usefulness."

This magic bestowed magician's will upon the sword and was tasked to eliminate any intruders.

Though the magic was only around the 4th circle level, this magic required significant effort to accomplish since the user needed to pour offensive abilities and consciousness into the object.

The magic was also more convenient than a conventional trap, since it recognized the owner and the people allowed entrance by the owner.

The sword was also effective at repelling monsters, however it took a 5th circle magician to fully utilize it because the magic sword was difficult to maintain.

"Let's keep moving. This gives me some expectations."

At the end of the cave was where the magician once resided.

In the wide laboratory and studies, there were about 100 books, parchments, magic ingredients, and considerable amount of gold and gems.

The magician's corpse was on the top of a bed.

Just as they predicted, the corpse that was nothing but skeleton conveyed his death must have been about 100 years ago.

"It seems the magician died in his sleep. It is common for this to happen to magicians who lived alone and never raised a disciple. Name is..... it seems the name of the magician was Raven looking at the self-written notes."

Hereseh and Rendall collected the bones and gave the magician a burial.

Basic etiquette grave robbers showed to the deceased during the scavenge!

Nedhand and Grona appraised profitable treasures and stored them in the magic bag.

They also wrapped some expensive crafts separately, so they wouldn't be scratched or damaged.

Jiss did not have anything particular to do so he just observed the party.

'It seems the profit will be quite good. Should be able to fetch at least around 10000 gold through the black market.'

A dead magician's dungeon was generally very profitable. Since the magician's fortune consisting of books, parchments, magic ingredients, and treasures were entirely inherited.

Though typical children were ignorant when it came to economics, Jiss understood and thoroughly calculated.

As Hereseh typically appraised magical equipment, exceptional equipments were typically repaired and used by the party.

Nedhand's axe, Rendall's boots and gloves, Laurelle's robes were all found this way.

Magicians have a much higher desire to collect things, so they carried better equipment the better their skills were.



"Now, this you can use."

Hereseh found a small sword and handed it to Jiss.

"What is this sir?"

"It is a sword with a magic sharpening enchantment."

"So this is the magic gear I've only heard about?"

"The sword's enchantment is effective to an extent, it will cut a typical sword in a clash. The enchantment level is quite high. Use it with care. If you use it on an animal, a rather gruesome aftermath can occur so do not be shocked."

"I will use it with care sir."

Jiss accepted the sword with two hands.

The weight and the length fitting for a child, who has not fully grown yet.

High noble children are sometimes given magic swords earlier but Jiss didn't feel envious.

This was because swordsmanship did not improve or even sometimes deformed when one depended solely on the sword's sharpness.

Jiss removed the child sword from his hip and equipped the magic sword. He felt a satisfied feeling as if he just became a legitimate swordsman.

Of course he knew actual encounters were more important, but honestly he did not yet want any confrontations.

"Now. Let us all leave. There shouldn't be any reasons to prolong our stay."

"It's been awhile since we made quite a harvest."

The trip back to the Elves' Forest after leaving the dungeon.

The group saw a traveling party of hundred or so goblins equipped with various weapons.

Laurelle said worriedly.

"Hm. It seems like the goblins are moving to attack something, looking at how they are traveling in a group."

Rendall thought similarly.

"The public order must have been devastated after the Earl Parker's family fell. There is a small town where people are living in the vicinity. It seems the goblins are moving to attack there."

"Do you think we should stop them?"

"Definitely."

Goblins were truly the worst amongst the monsters.

Even though they weren't that strong, they moved in packs and boasted fearful fertility rate.

If they were left to spread, they attacked and slaughtered humans, elves, dwarves, beasts and all other races with indifference.

They were easily dealt with when the empire's army was dispatched, however it was this goblin race that dealt boundless damage to the surrounding area until the army's arrival.

Of course they are also never completely annihilated, thus they continued to live in dungeons, caves and in the mountains.

"Please let me deal with this."

Grona took out her bow. Jiss also took out the bow he had received from Lishiansus.

"The bet is still on right?"

"Of course."

Shooshooshook!

Grona and Jiss fired the arrows the moment they were loaded onto the bow strong.

From untrained eyes it would seem they were just playing around to shoot as fast as they could, however the arrows impaled the faraway goblins' bodies.

"Kuuuekkk!"

"It's an ambush."

Goblins violently collapsed. Some goblins darted off and some hid behind rocks and trees as well.

Grona and Jiss targeted the goblins that were trying to run first, then targeted the ones hiding.

Even though shoddy and poor, these goblins were even wearing armor.

They were wearing leather or steel padded clothing, and even hung tree branches on themselves.

Arrows were the main problems goblins faced when attacking villages,

so they were at the least equipped with an armor.

However Jiss and Grona accurately only targeted their heads and their hearts.

It was mutually beneficial to swiftly cut the life line.

Even though they were goblins no one wanted to see them squirming in agony, not to mention goblins did not assist their injured comrades.

– It is really amazing he can keep up this much.

Initially Grona was going to go easy on Jiss to give him some confidence. However it did not look like Jiss's speed was falling behind her at all.

The arrows that were fired from Jiss's bow were accurately impaling the goblins.

– Should I speed up a bit. If he is talented, it is important to keep his confidence in check. It should be fine to go maximum power.

Goblins faced a calamity as Grona and Jiss showered them with arrows in competition.

Ghostly arrows that flew from distances impossible to see with bad eyesight.

Few arrows stabbed the ground and trees, some broke after hitting rocks, but most arrows stabbed away the goblins' lives.

"Eeeek! Attack's a failure!"

"This is not going to work. Retreat!"

Grona hunted 31 and Jiss hunted 25.

"You did really. But since you lost the bet, please do the dishes."

"Euuk. I thought I was gonna win for sure."

Rendall and Laurelle looked at Jiss proudly.

There was nothing shameful about losing to an elf in archery.

Though he did learn archery from Lishiansus, to think he would display such magnificent archery.

– He is my son after all. It would be fine to say his archery is at an elvish level after he matures a bit more. That kind of archery is truly fearsome on the battlefield.

Nedhand and Hereseh were forcefully hiding their astonishment.

– This kid is not bad. It seems he has good combat sense, should I

teach him how to use an axe as well?

– Even though archery and magic are of different fields, if his observation, reflexes, and focus are of this level..... he definitely has to become a magician.

In actuality Jiss did not try his best either.

‘I wouldn’t have won even if I went full throttle.’

Jiss wasn’t just learning how to rapidly and accurately fire from Lishiansus, but was also learning high level skills and tricks as well.

He was not yet at a level to dominate a space and grant that mana into an arrow, however he still had many other usable skills.

For example he knew how to load multiple arrows onto the bow and fire them towards a single point, or load mana into an arrow and explode it mid-flight to blow away the surrounding area.

The skills were still not all that powerful due to his inexperience, however they were more than enough to injure and capture more goblins.

Not just that, the Moregis bow Lishiansus gifted Jiss shot arrows extremely far and fast with just a slight pull of the bow string.

If Jiss had properly pulled the bow string all the way back, the arrows

would have completely pierced the goblins with a destructive wave.



## Part 2

'My skill raised significantly as well.'

Jiss hung the bow on his back satisfied.

The happiness from being able to go on adventure with his parents, now that he had secured two important equipments, a sword and a bow.

Grona thinly opened her eyes. Even though she was a dark elf, she was also cute due to her smallish stature.

"There is a person."

"What?"

"The person is tied to a stick the goblins were carrying. It seems the person is still alive."

Jiss wasn't paying attention to any of the goblin's belongings because he was too busy firing arrows.

Experienced Grona was first to notice.

"I should check it out."

"I shall come as well."

"Can I....."

"Jiss. You stay here."

Grona and Nedhand slowly approached with their bodies lowered.

Goblins are cowardly creatures, however they become ruthless when in a group.

Goblins knew how to observe and ambush and the group had to be weary of humans of other professions as well.

'I wonder who it is.'

Jiss used the golden string connected to the person and read his mind.

The string was established the moment they had saved the person's life.

– Uwah. I thought I was going to be eaten by the goblins, to think I was saved by humans. I just barely survived.

The person was celebrating the departure of danger.

– Cheh. To think they kicked me out of the village just because I hit some kids. I almost became goblin food.

Grona untied him and brought him to the party. He was a small boy, even smaller than Jiss, and seemed to be around 10 years old based on how he looked.

“He..hello. Thank you for rescuing me. I don’t know how I can ever repay this debt.”

The boy spoke with mature manners, unfitting of his age. And as he spoke, he was busy rolling his eyes side to side.

-Uwah. What’s this. Dwarf and dark elf. Top of that a priestess and a warrior, and there is even a mage. I don’t know much about magicians but he seems like a big deal based on his atmosphere.

“Cht cht. You must have had much hardship. Are you hungry?” (Zix: Cht cht = tongue ticking sound.)

The boy nodded his head furiously at Rendall’s statement.

“Yes sir. A little bit.”

“It’s not much but you can eat this.”

The boy slowly ate the hard bread, while dipping it in water, as he observed his surroundings.

He was young but he was a boy used to poverty.

"Right. So what happened to you?"

"Ah. So my hometown is Jenun village, which is part of Earl Haellot territory. But I lost my parents early last year...."

– It should be fine if I don't mention all they did was drink all day and then they ran away with all the money in the house.

"I wanted to do something great in the future so I was traveling around to gather experience."

"You must had much hardship."

"Yes. It is a time of struggle for everyone. Still, I was able to scrape by helping out merchants."

– Merchants are so stingy. It's not rare for them to work you for days and even midnights. Why should I work if I can just take food and supplies from kids.

"I was recently staying at Ruboi village when I was following the crowd, but I ended up being kidnapped by the goblins the second I left the village."

"I see. So what do you plan on doing from now on. If you know a village

we can take you there or we can hire merchant traveling towards that direction to escort you there."

"If you don't mind, may I know your party's destination?"

"Yes. We are first going to Ellim."

"Then could you also take me there?"

– Ellim is a big trading city. The city is uninvolved in the civil war, so the condition there should be a little better. Good. I should be able to find myself a new place there since nobody will know me.

"Yea let's do that."

Rendall decided to not ask questions and just take him to Ellim.

Rendall, Nedhand and Hereseh all nodded after glancing at each others' eyes.

There was no way these individuals, who had plethora of experience traveling, would completely believe the words coming out from a small kid like this.

The kid was simply too calm considering what kind of dangerous situation he was just involved with the goblins.

All they thought was bringing the boy to Ellim would be the end of their relationship.

The road to Ellim.

The boy brought Jiss to a quiet place while Grona was gone for night-watch.

"So you are twelve? I am actually twelve too. It's fine if I speak comfortably right?"

The boy was actually a year younger but he lied to equal himself with Jiss. He had not seen Jiss shoot arrows while he was tied up.

"My name is Mabin. What's yo name?" (Zix: Mabin is talking rudely here, like a thug or something.)

"Jiss."

"Your introduction is a lil short. But I am generous when it comes to that kinda things, so you don't have to be so tense. Anyways got money? Hand em over."

"....."

"If you don't empty your pockets while I am still being nice, I can't guarantee what's gon happen next. I will have you know, breaking a few limbs of fresh grass smelling kids like you is easy. By the time you have a

nose bleed, I won't forgive you even if you beg while crying."

"Em. Then I will give you this."

Jiss took out a gold coin from his pocket and gave it to him.

It was a coin he kept as a souvenir from the magician's dungeon.

"Th..this is real gold. Are you really giving this to me? You aren't kidding right?"

"Yea. It's your medical fees."

"Even though it was a little tough when I was captured by goblins, I am not hurt anywhere?"

"That will come after you are beaten a bit. I was pondering how should I educate you or if I should just leave you alone. This could be called destiny as well, so I guess I will be sculpting a person today. What else can I do right?"

Jiss quietly raised his fist.

Rendall, Grona, Nedhand, and of course Hereseh, there was really nothing weaker than Jiss in the Elves' Forest.

'You are really in for it now. Yea. This kind of entertainment is needed a

bit while living after all.'

The overflowing joy as Jiss decided to relieve all the stress he had gathered from training and sparring, by guiding the boy on the right path!



## Part 3

The party left Mabin to a pub owner.

It was a pub Nedhand sometimes visited to buy beer in bulk, and the owner was a strong man with a mercenary background.

"I will take care of him since I needed a worker at the shop anyway. I can't promise I will raise him extremely well but I can guarantee he won't skip a meal."

This alone was quite a favor since refugees were still pouring in from the Grateess empire.

"That is more than enough. Hey brat. I will visit sometimes so grow up well."

Hereseh petted Mabin's head.

The purple bruises that covered the once clear face even after the rescue painted a picture, but no one batted an eye.

There was really no one else but Jiss that could have done this.

– Kids bond by fighting. I was worried he might become a herbivore growing with elves, but I guess it was false alarm.

Jiss was not a normal boy in any sense.

He understood magic since he was an infant, and from 5, 6 years old, he learned how to use his body.

Ever since he realized mana, he had been receiving even more severe training from Rendall!

Rendall also didn't mind because it was his own son.

– Better than getting beat up outside.

Grona was a dark elf with deep sense of loyalty.

She was listening to the commotion between Jiss and Mabin with her sharp ears during the night watch .

– If by any change Jiss-nim gets in danger, I will eliminate the boy. I will stop his breathe with my arrow. (Zix: Korean, like Japanese, has a respectful way of speaking or referring to a person. Grona seems to use respectful when talking to almost everyone, even Jiss. -nim is pretty much same as -san in Japanese.)

Her arrow was lightly touching the bow string.

Nedhand was a rough dwarf.

When he saw Mabin's blued up face in the morning, he ticked his tongue.

-Em. Jiss is still too young. If Mabin was a dwarf, only that much of a punishment wouldn't set him on the right path. With only that much the boy can still chew and eat fine.

Unfortunately for Mabin, all of the adults were on Jiss's side from the very beginning.

Laurelle, having a priestess background, normally was deeply sympathetic but regretfully she was Jiss's mother as well.

- Is my baby Jiss hurt anywhere? Even if he hit 10 times, if he is hit once, it's not worth it. The human body is weak. Especially, my boy is still just a kid.....

Due to this development, Mabin ended up just quietly following the party to Ellim after being trampled on.

Jiss ate at the lively pub with his family before leaving the city.

To grasp the general situation around the world, it had been a long time since Jiss had an opportunity to read the minds of regular citizens.

- Sigh. If I go back home now my wife will throw a fit again. I hope someone looking for a mercenary comes by. If possible a job that

requires no fighting.

– The mystery of life, war is truly a big opportunity for our great research and cadaver studies. Instead of making corpses, I should research with a more effective method. I heard there are 5000 fresh corpses at the plain south. If I leave now, I should be able to arrive day after tomorrow right?

– Kakakakaaaht. You fools. It is I, Kesu-nim, the famous king of thieves. All your pockets are as good as mine.

– I want to meet a girl. I want to sleep with a pretty girl. Eeeeeuuuhhhh. Why is it so hard to meet women.

– This asshole in front of me..... he is my friend but he's really human trash.

– Does this retarded asshole still think I am his friend?

Everyone had different desires but everyone lived wanting for something.

He wanted to learn about the continent's current events but this was to be expected from pub customers.

'My head hurts. Whatever, things will work out one way or another.'

Jiss spoke to Mabin as the party left.

"Let's meet again."

"Yes. Hyung-nim!" (Zix: Mabin is speaking to Jiss respectfully now as an elder. Hyung = Big brother. -nim = -san.)

"Hey. The way you are answering while grinding your teeth, it seems like you want revenge or something next time we see each other?"

"Such a thing.....\*grind\*. I will be well."

## Part 4

Yeonwoo yawned while stretching his arms.

"Eeeahhhhhh.....Hhhhaaaaahhhhhhhaaaa."

His two younger siblings Yeon-Yool and Yeon-Taejin were staring at him blankly.

"Haaaaaaaaaaaaahhhhaaaam!"

The extremely extended yawning session.

Yeonwoo said as if he was tired.

"I want to eat hamburger for dinner."

"Oppa-nim. We ate it yesterday but you want to eat it again?" (Zix: Oppa is Korean equivalent of Onii-chan and Oppa-nim is Onii-san. Oppa is when a girl refers to an older brother. Hyung is when a boy refers to a bigger brother.)

"You can consider hamburger as a symbol of the United States. How do you think America became the strongest power in the world?"

Yeon-Taejin thought about it a little bit, then answered without confidence.

"I....I wonder? I am not sure."

This was a question way too difficult for an elementary 4th grader.

This was because even though he was dreaming to become a scientist, school did not teach these topics yet.

"It's because of the hamburger. The society couldn't help but advance after eating such delicious food. Ah, pizza also did quite bit of share as well."

"....."

Yeon-Yool and Yeon-Taejin looked their oppa/hyung with eyes of disappointment.

- Something doesn't sound right about this.
- He's a fraud!

Yeonwoo.

To them he was the second oldest hyung and oppa.

Due to both of the parents working, Yeonwoo often played with them at

home.

He helped them with homework after school and told them of life stories resembling a fool's dream.

Even though their age difference was only 1 to 2 years, he had so much knowledge.

However their days of unquestioning loyalty was but a story of yesterday!

- Everyday he only wants pizza and hamburger.
- Lazy. All he does is roll the floor everyday.

Lately they looked at Yeonwoo with eyes of defiance.

"You guys are thinking I am wrong right now, right?"

"....."

"You know hamburger places give hero toys and dolls right. Think about the reasoning behind that carefully. It has deep meaning to give us kids hope and dreams, so we will one day help society."

"Is.... is that so?"

The siblings ended up being convinced since they were still innocent



children.

In reality Yeonwoo's life style couldn't be considered healthy.

He enjoyed greasy oily food, and he did not exercise at all.

"Khyaaaahh. Look at all the marbling. How long has it been since I had meat."

Amongst the siblings, he was always the first to rush at the sight of meat. He filled his stomach to the brim then lied down right away.

"Warm heated floor is the best. Ahhhwooo..... so good." (Zix: In Korea, instead having a heater by a wall, a boiler heats the floor from underneath.)

Sometimes when he bathed, he spoke of how lucky he was while acting like a middle-aged man.

- I mustn't live like that. Look at that weight gain.
- I shouldn't be like oppa-nim.

He was able to read Yeon-Taejin and Yeon-Yool's conception of him change.

Yeonwoo's body became a little fat for an elementary student.

'This was inevitable. After living in the Elves' Forest for days, sometimes even a month, there is no way a hamburger wouldn't be delicious.'

The flavor he doesn't get sick of no matter how much he ate.

'Though I did gain some weight.'

Fit and fast body almost beyond reasoning in the other world, and below average fit elementary student in this world.

'You need some meat when you are a kid in this world where there are no monsters to fight. If it is necessary I can lose it later.'

Yeonwoo leisurely set his mind.

## Part 5

School day next day.

Yeonwoo glanced at the food market with gluttony.

“Em. I want to eat Kimbob and Dukbokki. But in our house two parents are working hard to raise four children..... Huewooooo.” (Zix: Kimbob is Korean sushi roll.)

Sometimes it was sad to have too many siblings.

For example when they ordered chicken for delivery, it was pitiful.

One chicken, four children, and two parents.

Whenever an order was made on the phone, silence fell upon the house.

Yeon-Jungsoo.

– That’s mine. I won’t share with my siblings. I have to eat two leg at the least.

Yeon-Taejin.

– Uuuuahhhh that marinated chicken is the most delicious food in the world.

Yeon-Yool.

– It's delicious. Oppa-nims won't give me any and eat them all.

There were no thoughts of sharing the chicken between the siblings.

'Yea you all have mouths too..... This is war.'

But his heart changed a bit when he read his parent's minds.

Yeon-Chul.

– I didn't eat dinner either.... But children still need to eat first. Since I can eat later.

Han-Seungmi.

– After paying this month's rent for the apartment..... Ehueee. Still, I am happy since the children are growing up well. It would be great if we can just keep living happily like this.

Always worrying about money!

Because there were four children, just feeding and dressing them required a lot of money.

'I need to be understanding of the family's finances since I am already an elementary student.'

He had no choice but to take and eat the chicken neck, which no one competed for.

Many fun times were had thanks to having many family members but eating was never plentiful.

The reason Yeonwoo was able to eat pizza and hamburger frequently was thanks to his rich friend Goo-Sungmahn.

"Euhm. I should bring him home tomorrow."

As Yeonwoo was making his stern resolution, someone approached him from the behind.

"Hey Yeonwoo."

"Yea?"

His childhood friend Jin-Sora was behind him when he turned around.

Even though she was only an elementary student, she was already quite

tall and was well dressed.

Even with just one look, you could tell she was growing up cute and beautiful.

Jin-Sora, who he hasn't seen for long time, looked like tears were about to fall from her eyes any second.

"Want to go to the food market over there?"

"I don't have any allowance."

"I will buy."

"Okay. If that's the case."

Yeonwoo knew she was going to tell him something. He could have read her mind right away but he decided to wait instead.

'It seems she wants to tell me something. I wonder what is worrying her.'

His deep thought was also only momentary.

"Here is your fish cake, Dukkobokki and Soondae." (Zix: Soondae is kinda like a Korean blood sausage.)

The varied order had arrived from the owner lady's hand to the table.

"Thank you for the meal."

Yeonwoo mindlessly devoured his food.

"Yea delicious food definitely needs saltiness. Keeuh. How long has it been since I ate Soondae."

Anything was delicious after eating nothing but grass in the Elves' Forest.

This effect was mostly mentally but there was also always a feeling of starvation while he trained hellishly.

He finally gave Jin-Sora attention again after he finished eating.

'Even me..... Though I did have a long life, I still can't help it.'

He filled up his stomach reasonably.

Yeonwoo made eye contact with Jin-Sora and spoke with his best cool manner.

"Hey Sora. Do you have something to tell me?"

"Yea. But...."

"You can tell me anything."

"You have sauce on your face."

"Seeuupp" (Zix: Licking noise.)

Jin-Sora spoke when Yeonwoo wiped the sauce.

"So..... I am moving."

"To which town?"

"Far. To Europe....."

Jin-Sora's father, who was a researcher, had to go to Europe for a couple of years. His wife and daughter was following him as well.

Jin-Sora spoke with teary eyes.

"Stay well even though I won't be here. Yeonwoo."

"Ye.....eah."

Was it said women mature faster mentally than men?



Even though she looked like a baby to Yeonwoo just before, she was already becoming quite womanly.

“Eehuuuheuuk.” (Zix: Containing tears sound.)

Jin-Sora paid for the meal and ran out the door, after looking like she was almost about to cry.

Yeonwoo felt a little empty and lonely when he was walking back to his house.

“Eh..... so. This was all just as I predicted.”

Childhoods don't last forever.

He knew his childhood friends like Jin-Sora and Yee-Heejin would eventually mature and even find boyfriends.

Some will leave and he will also meet new people as well.

The childhood that passed by after leaving foggy memories.

There was still boundless possibilities and potentials since he was still young.

“You still shouldn't have left so abruptly since we don't know when we will meet again.”

Regret poured into his heart.

"I wanted to eat one more serving of Soondae....."

# Stories of the Fathers

# Part 1

The Earth 12 years ago.

"Soon my second child will be born. Huhu."

The salary man Yeon-Chul smiled with a slight grin.

The firstborn was growing up like weed, but even more warmth will surround the family with the second child's birth.

Yeon-Chul spoke to the child inside his wife's belly.

"When you are born you must grow up healthy."

40 weeks spent inside her mother's belly.

The baby would never know how much time the father and mother spent just hoping for the baby to be born safely.

It was difficult to even eat for the mother and she couldn't even sleep well due to baby sickness. She was fatigued from exhaustion, but she held on with the single wish of the baby being born healthy.

"Don't worry your mom too much..... It would be great if I can be sick

in your stead.”

Yeon-Chul thought about the thousands of things he could do together with the baby, and how will he will raise him as a proud father. (Zix: I guess this didn't work out so well because Yeonwoo spends practically no time with this world's parents.)

Then the birth!

The baby was born at the obstetrics.

It was the happiest moment as a father.

However the baby's facial expression began to become weird after a few days.

“The baby looks like he is scared.....”

“What do you mean?”

“He also made the same expression few days ago. It is as if he knew he was getting a shot today.”

“Eh, no way~”

The wife did not think that was possible.

Usually the mother's opinions were correct since the baby spends all its time in the mother's arm.

However mothers sometimes miss things because of this same reason.

It was a motherly nature to think of their kids to be normal even if they were a little abnormal, and believe they are geniuses if they are just a little bit smarter.

"It looks like the baby is even understanding what we are saying."

"There is no wa..... No, I guess it is possible. Since he is a baby, he may be even more sensitive and perceptive."

Other than the fact that the baby seemed very perceptive, there was nothing else very different about him.

Even if his diaper was changed late, he didn't cry as if he was being understanding and he didn't complain about what food he ate either.

'Is this because the firstborn was too difficult? People say there are some kids that are hard to raise but this is making me worried because he is too easy to raise.'

It was difficult for Yeon-Chul to pay much attention to his kids because he was too busy working at the office.

He was able to pay even less attention when the third and the fourth

were born.

Since Yeonwoo also grew up not causing any trouble like other kids, the parents even completely forgot about how he was special when he was a baby.

Then the parents noticed Yeonwoo was sighing a lot when he was seven. He was being evasive and looked surprised when they tried to talk to him.

'Is this some new trend amongst kids?'

Raising children was a difficult world to understand for adults.

When Yeonwoo became 10, he felt extremely mature regardless of being the 2nd born.

Through his mannerisms and his actions, he showed much more maturity than the firstborn Yeon-Jungsoo. His physical attributes were more kid-like, but even his thought processes were much deeper.

"Hey Yeonwoo. About allowances. You now have times when you need to spend money right."

"It must be difficult for mother and father to raise four children in this day and age. Please decide on a manageable amount for me."

"O...okay."

Even when traveling.

"Is there somewhere you want to go this holiday?"

All the kids rushed to say where they wanted to go when Yeon-Chul asked.

"Let's go eat pizza."

"Ocean, Ocean, Ocean!"

Yeonwoo always sighed before speaking.

"It's all same same regardless of where you go in South Korea. And Yool. The ocean is off limits. It's a complete rip off."

"But Oppa-nim. I still want to go."

"Yeon-Yool. What did I say you have to look out for the most as you live your life?"

"Th....the census?"

"Yea. If you go to the beach now you will be completely blocked out. From the very entrance, it will be filled with people and parking will be difficult as well."



"How about delicious food?"

"This is not a good season for seafood. The ocean will also be half people and half piss."

He had a tight grip on his young siblings.

This year he had become 12.

Yeonwoo's television channel choices have changed vastly.

He watched the 8 o'clock news together with the parents in the living room and he preferred to watch play-writing shows.

One time an episode on rural families came on the television.

"The air must be fresh in the countryside. They also should be less stressed, since they are living in nature."

"Your body will also get stronger as you diligently farm and raise flowers and trees."

Yeonwoo then said something.

"But farming is all hard manual labor. You have to work long in a seated position, and carry heavy things with your back bent. It's not something a

city person can do easily. You can't endure it for long when your bones start to ache in pain. You will suffer arthritis."

"....."

It was a correct statement but this wasn't something an elementary student should be able to concoct.

– His teacher must have told him stories of farmers.

He also spoke bitterly when watching a documentary on miners.

"You can tell right away that is the wrong place. You need to find the vein of the ore properly. Eehuu. It looks like they will accomplish nothing for about a month."

Story of a blacksmith making kitchen knives using traditional method came on as well.

"Look at that hammering skill. A novice. A complete novice. He must have stopped learning midway."

"....."

"Hammering is strength, location, and rhythm. Without embedding the skills into your body, how would anything be accomplished half-assedly like that. Like that, the steel will just shatter after just a few strong hits."

Raising four children, Yeon-Chul witnessed all sorts of spectacle when he arrived home.

The running around Yeon-Jungsoo, running away Yeon-Taejin, and Yeon-Yool would completely make a mess out of the house after playing with dolls.

Compared to them, all Yeonwoo did was eat and roll around on the floor. His crave for meat was so high, it was to an extent his diet was becoming worrisome.

"Mom. What are we having for dinner today?"

"We are going to eat Bulgogi, one of your favorites." (Zix: Bulgogi is a Korean meat dish. It is thinly sliced rib-eye marinated in soy-sauce based sauce.)

"Yes! Finally Bulgogi in three months. How long has it been since I had meat."

"Didn't you eat it last week?"

"Ah.... you are right."

His mother looked at Yeonwoo with worry. There were times when he was a little weird.

"You are just a kid, how do you have bad memories."

"You know. Time travels so fast."

Other than the fact that he sometimes said weary things, she was glad he was growing up well intelligently.

When she arrived home, she found joy of living in raising her four children.

"Manager Yeon! What kind of shoddy work is this!"

"I apologize. Director-nim. I will submit after revising it."

"If you do not properly submit the export results this time, the team 3 might face personal adjustments. Don't regret later and do well now."

Yeon-Chul was a manager at an export company.

He had to suffer for company performance and he had to take care of his team members as well as his family at home.

When he arrived home after working until he was about to collapse from exhaustion, he believed only person that knew how he truly felt was his wife, who was also working a full-time job.

## Part 2

Marka Continent 13 years ago.

When Rendall heard his wife was pregnant, he almost flew with happiness.

"Finally I am becoming a father too."

He already had many things he wanted to do when the child was born.

"I must teach swordsmanship. A swordsman strong enough to even slay a knight with a single strike.....!"

He was absolutely no help during the pregnancy.

Because Laurelle was a priestess, she was able to just bless herself anytime there was something wrong with her body.

She even had the might to slay a couple goblins even during morning sickness.

Of all times possible, Jiss was born amidst a dungeon hunt.

"It's a son."

A daughter would have to be married off to a merchant or a noble, but he would be able to teach him swordsmanship since it was a son.

“Hurry and grow up fast.”

Jiss grew up like a weed.

Rendall and Laurelle did not know much about infant care.

– Kids grow up on their own if you leave them alone.

Rendall focused on advancing his own swordsmanship.

It was still fortunate for Jiss because some villages raised their children with a leash tied to their necks.

He felt Jiss’s intelligence when he was 3 years old. He was proficient at conversations and he good at handling objects.

– It seems he can’t be a dumb simple-minded swordsman like me.

He taught him swordsmanship, and thankfully Jiss was able to learn other difficult topics such as magic and archery as well.

Hereseh and Lishiansus were great teachers.

– If I had opportunities like this when I young was too..... I would have been able to become a stronger warrior than I am now. But I am still not jealous. Since I have Laurelle.

## Part 3

Rendall was from a small village named Rodox, where he learned swordsmanship from a retired mercenary.

"You absorb all the lessons very well."

"Will I be able to become a knight with my skills?"

The mercenary made a slight frown with his scar filled face.

"Puhaat. Absolutely impossible. Though you will be able to fill the stomachs of crows on the battlefield well."

The mercenary evaluated his own swordsmanship as mediocre. However he was still teaching Rendall various skills he had accumulated from 20 years of experience as a mercenary.

"Do you want to become a mercenary as well?"

"Yes sir. All men want to live a life of glory after all."

"Mercenary? There is no such thing as glory in this job. You would be fortunate to retire early after making a big sum of money."



"How about you sir?"

"I failed during my youth due to women and money. By the time I set myself straight, my physique was just not the same..... I have many enemies as well, so I am also currently living unable to easily even reveal my name."

When Rendall reached 17 years old, his father spoke to him.

"I have no land I can leave you behind. It is regretful but you will have to find your own path."

There were 8 children in that household.

It was time for him to become independent from his father, who barely scraped by farming.

He had to leave the household but he had no animosity towards his father. It was already impressive hard work he had done, not letting his 8 children starve.

Rendall traveled around the Refrea empire while taking on security jobs during harvest celebration seasons or monster extermination jobs.

"New recruit. Don't you know how to stand properly? Make sure you stop the enemy for a bit, even if you are going to die. Withstand at least 3 sword strikes! This is why I brought you here after all."

He had to work through naggings from his mercenary seniors, even for small 1~2 gold jobs that barely covered a month worth a meal.

After a year had passed and he gained combat skills and experience, the amount of insults he received from his seniors decreased.

Since many new recruits chose to be a mercenary as last resort, about  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the new recruits died within the first year.

Mercenaries were also not well recognized since there were frequent cases of mercenaries killing their client and running away.

As a mercenary who survived the first year, he was now able to do his share and was given real tasks.

Rendall spent 3 years in the Refrea dukedom doing nothing but monster exterminations.

Spring, Fall, Winter.

Excluding summer, under the blazing sun, there was work to be done everywhere.

Since the homeland was mostly consisted of mountains, many monsters thrived since mountains were typically their habitat.

During summer he usually took on merchant escort jobs, and sometimes even accompanied nobles vacationing by the beach.

Rendall did any work available vigorously, and work that he had to put his life on the line provided even more ransom and experience.

After 3 years had passed, he visited home for a short while.

His father, mother, and siblings' financial situation was not all that different from when he had left.

"This is 140 gold. Father. Please distribute it amongst the kids."

".....This is your life's worth. I understand."

Rendall then left the Refrea dukedom.

Mercenary work was always available, however he did not want to do monster extermination all his life.

He started his new life as a mercenary, escorting high nobles who had lost in the wide continent to the Grates empire.

In the dukedom, mercenaries were often equipped with axes or maces since they mostly fought monsters.

However in the empire, even though there were sometimes monsters, most work consisted of dealing with people thus mercenaries typically carried a sword and a small shield.

The nightlife was also quite developed in the empire, since there were many mercenaries who lived drunk on women and alcohol.

"Fourth year as a mercenary. You are clearly skilled since you are of the Refrea dukedom..... Is there a specific type of work you want to do? There is quite of a big proportion difference of money and danger."

"I desire to travel the world sir."

"If you can turn a blind eye just for a moment, there is a job where you can make a lot more money....."

"I appreciate the offer but that is not what I currently want sir."

"Contact me anytime you have a change of heart."

He received various task through the mercenary guild.

Solving a dispute between nobles, ancient dungeon exploration, thief extermination, were some of the unique jobs Rendall completed.

A big commission opportunity appeared by the lake side.

Rendall's current monthly income was 16 gold.

"You will have to go a little far for this one. The commission is three

times the normal amount."

"Is this dangerous work?"

"There is always danger here and there for mercenary jobs. I am asking you because I want trustworthy people for this job. Since the Blue Sail Top gets plenty of applications."

"I will do it."

The Blue Sail Top was a giant group who traded all over the world.

Rendall traveled the world for two years with the Blue Sail Top group.

He explored the desert with camels, and also successfully traded with the inhabitants who lived in extremely cold climates.

As he traveled from the far north to south, wherever it was habitable for humans, his dreams grew even though he was just a mercenary.

Many fellow mercenaries and merchant guards also lost their lives.

These years were different from when he was fighting monsters by the city.

There were no castle walls and battle supplies were also not plentiful.

Nothing was more dangerous than encountering a hungry wolf pack in the desert.

This was because the encounter did not end with just a single pack. There were hundreds of wolf pack in the desert. After the first encounter, the group would have to travel while the smell of blood continuously attract more wolf packs.

The final territory Rendall visited with the group was the Earl Mallatte's territory.

At that time the Blue Sail group had expanded almost recklessly and loaned big sums of money to nobles.

As a civil war broke out in the Lama empire and the loans were not paid back to the Blue Sail group, the group's operation became difficult.

The wealthy Earl Mallatte took over the Blue Sail Top and kicked out all the contracted mercenaries.

Rendall traveled the continent a bit more when his contracted ended and he arrived at the Grateess empire's city, Elden.

There was many mercenary work in Elden, since it was a trading central.

"You were with the Blue Sail Top group? You are lucky."

"What sir?"

"It seems you didn't hear the news concerning the Mallatte Earl's family. The Earl executed all of the previous core members of the Blue Sail group and killed all the left over mercenaries as well."

"How can that be. Isn't it illegal to execute mercenaries or independent merchants licensed by the empire?"

"Law is a tool the nobles use as their hearts desire and it seems this was the crown's will as well. This is all because the Blue Sail group barged into Lama empire's business, where they shouldn't have."

"But they had no choice but to lend the Lama empire money to expand their trading....."

"That is why I am saying they were unlucky. And you are considered lucky."

Rendall found some work during time through personal requests.

There were regular jobs in the mercenary world, as there were dishonest work as well.

Danger always followed like a shadow, thus work had to be chosen wisely.

7 years of mercenary life.

Just the fact that he never had big injuries such as losing an arm or a leg, Rendall was considered a skilled veteran in the trade.

There were even some mercenary groups that wanted to recruit Rendall.

"I apologize. Sorry but I am just too accustomed to traveling alone."

"You won't have any regrets joining a group of our caliber. You can never receive a big recognition without building a den."

"For now, I would like to travel alone freely."

"It seems you are not a real mercenary yet. Opportunity isn't something that come around often, so you will end up regretting later on."

The might of mercenary groups consisted of 100 to 200 members was no laughing matter.

Through negotiations they were usually commissioned twice the normal amount mercenaries were given, four times if time sensitive, and sometimes even up to 5 times.

However the amount of danger was proportional to the commission as well.

When two nobles fought they usually stopped after superiority was determined, but sometimes the two fought with purpose to completely



rid of each other.

As it is said even the mercenaries of the losing side are all executed if unlucky, the Gwyn Co. Mercenary group that was trying to recruit Rendall was recently annihilated.

The retired mercenary that taught Rendall the sword long ago, always said this as if it was a habit.

"It is good to stop doing mercenary work as soon as possible. If you think you earned enough money, get your hands off it right away. As you endure losing a limb or two, you will end up losing your neck as well. No, for a mercenary that may even be a blessing. Since there are mercenaries who end up becoming human experiments for magicians."

1600 gold.

He made enough money to retire for the rest of his life if he were to live frugally.

He worked hard following merchants around, and saved the money he earned instead of spending them.

Rendall's age is now 24. Physically he was at his peak, but he saw a wall when it came to mercenary work.

He had to see blood and death, and even comrades and requests couldn't be completely trusted.

"I should decide which city I want to settle in. It should be a great place if I have to live there forever."

To choose what city he wanted to settle in, he chose nothing but Grate's empire transit jobs.

He was able to earn a decent amount of wage thanks to his large mercenary experience.

But then tragically, when he just arrived at the Barikade castle, a mass of hungry monsters attacked the castle.

A small castle with only a feeble population of 5000, just a recent addition to the Grate's empire.

It was there, where Rendall met Nedhand.

"You bastards. Come have a taste of my axe!"

## Part 4

Rendall and Nedhand's first impressions of each other weren't very good.

'It's a short dwarf. He has a lot of mustache.'

'Skinny feeble looking human. How would a common mercenary wooden stick be of any help in a battle.'

Three thousand monsters from the Metice mountain range stormed the Barikade castle.

Every year monster population needed to be kept in check through extermination, however it was ignored for the last few years due to a quarrel between the two nearby nobles.

Three cities have already fallen to the monsters due to this quarrel.

So now even Barikade castle, which hasn't been sieged for over 100 years, was being attacked.

The captain of security yelled with a loud voice.

"Hold for a bit longer. One day, at most in two days, Earl Basad's reinforcements will arrive! These pathetic monsters will be easily

repelled!"

Rendall nose laughed.

'There is no way that will happen.'

From the captain of security's point of view, he had only said this to calm the soldiers and the residents.

However there was no way 3000 monster army would not instill fear in a person.

The Gelko!

They were 2 meter tall lizard like monsters that ran on top of two feet.

They were much smarter than regular hunting dogs and was much faster than them. They traveled in packs and ate anything in their path.

As they laid hundreds of eggs at a time, they sometimes ate each other because they hated being hungry.

If they were not cannibalistic, there probably wouldn't be anything left on the continent except the Gelkos.

If there was a pack of Gelkos attacking the Barikade castle, there was also a big chance that the surrounding cities were being attacked as well.

The situation was practically a mass catastrophe.

Rendall did not spoke out loud but he prepared for his last moments.

'I didn't think today was going to be my last day. I finally wanted to stop doing mercenary work and settle down.....'

The mercenary guild had a record of the Gelko attack 24 years ago, and it was written 7 cities and 31 villages were completely destroyed.

'There isn't going to be any reinforcement. We will have to hold by ourselves for a week in the least. This is futile.'

All of the adult male residents of Barikade castle were turned into foot soldiers.

It was the same case for Rendall who came with the merchant.

"A mercenary. Do you know how to use the sword?"

"Yes sir."

"How long have you been a mercenary?"

"7 years sir."

"Really? Where are you from?"

"The Refrea dukedom sir."

"That area is an area famous for its monster population..... It is fine if I check your mercenary card to confirm your speaking the truth yes?"

Mercenary guilds used magic to leave some marks on the mercenary cards. The card holder's name, experience, illegal activities, referrals and such were recorded on the card.

It acted as identification when the owner traveled to other territories.

"So it is true. Your commission cost is high as well. You seem like you probably made more money than me as well?"

Rendall was a mercenary but he was given a role of a 100 man commander.

He was given 30 regular soldiers, and the rest were drafted residents equipped with a spear.

"Support the easy side. Just remember the fact all will be lost if we lose the castle walls."

It was a task given by force but if the castle wall fell, everyone would be in danger.

Rendall fought the Gelkos on the east wall with the soldiers like he was going to die.

Every time a soldier died, he has to fill in the gap.

Only thing he trusted was his physique and swordsmanship. He swung his sword coldly with focus even when he was just by the death's doorstep.

'This might be the place I will die, but right now is not that moment. I will protect the residents even if it is just one more I can kill.'

When a battle breaks out, the fate of many lives depend on the commander.

The leader of security was a reasonable competent person.

He asked Rendall of the tendencies of the Gelko.

"I don't know much about them as well. However due to their voracious appetite, it is said their only objective is to eat."

"Hm. If that is the case. If we give them our food, will they go away?"

"No sir. Even though they are intelligent, the way they think is different that of a human's"

"What do you mean?"

"To them it will look like food is giving them food. They will have no reason to go away."

"Haa~. Still, I should try to utilize something."

Every time the battle ended, the inhabitants threw the corpses outside the castle wall.

Gelko devoured anything and everything.

The inhabitants were able to rest thanks to the Gelkos fighting amongst each other while eating the corpses, and it weakened the Gelkos' cohesion as well.

Even so, even with the forcefully drafted soldiers, the fighting force of the castle was merely about 2000 and the Gelkos easily outnumbered that amount.

Taking the fact that a single Gelko can fight 3 soldiers in an open plain or the forest, even with the advantage of having the castle wall, there were simply too many of them.

Rendall slew over 40 Gelkos on his own.

He was a godly figure no other soldiers could possibly emulate.



The captain of security who was covered in blood gave an order.

"Throw the consumables outside of the castle walls."

"Captain!"

The soldiers were shocked by the order but the captain had a plan.

"Brew a fight amongst the monsters by throwing food amongst them. This is to make the monsters fight each other for food and deter them from attacking the castle walls."

The women and even the children started to cook food.

"Kuhuhu. There is no way I, Nedhand, will become Gelko food! Though I am tough and untasty..... Yea, the scent of beer must be deeply soaked into my skin. Either way the dwarven God Woogendal-nim will not allow me to die."

By using the contraption that was rapidly created by the dwarf Nedhand, the inhabitants launched the food outside the castle walls.

Lots of spices were used to cook the food to maximize the strategy's efficiency.

When would a monster have a chance to eat a properly cooked food. The strategy stopped the monsters' charge, and it caused them to fight amongst each other for food.

Two weeks since the showdown.

The food within the walls were all depleted and the Gelko army was still 1200 strong.

The people were barely able to sleep and had to always fight.

They had to chase down 10 Gelkos that made within the castle walls one time, and the castle door was also almost destroyed once before.

Soldier injury assessment 80%.

Even soldiers with an arm missing ran into battle, after only receiving simple first aid treatment to protect their family.

The captain, whose hair had turned white, tenaciously commanded the soldiers.

"Lift up your swords. Die while fighting! Even if you were to enter the Gelko's mouth..... Protect your family!"

It was then when the reinforcements arrived.

The Earl Basad's family.

5 Magic Armors and 120 knights came and swept away the Gelkos like

the autumn leaves.

Every time the Magic Armors swung their swords, five to six heads of the Gelkos exploded.

Rendall couldn't do anything else but to stare at the ordeal with the leftover soldiers dumbfounded.

"Shining Blade!"

The Magic Armor's monster extermination magic activation.

The giant blade of light rotated on the plain and cut the Gelkos in two.

With the chase of the Knights, the ruthless monsters were completely terminated in mere two hours.

"We..we won."

"We are alive!"

Rendall and the soldiers sat as their legs gave out.

They had just barely, survived by a thread.

The following probation measures.

As Rendall was a mercenary and was drafted only due to emergency measures, he was not compensated for anything.

The visiting merchants had huge loss in profit as well.

The horses and the carriages were destroyed, and about half of the male merchants also lost their lives.

Asking the Earl for compensation was a pointless act as well. Not only he won't grant you an audience, you had to take care of yourself to survive afterwards anyways.

The losses were great but people were glad just for the fact that they still had their lives, and they were able to move onto the next city.

Before leaving, Rendall observed the probation process of the knights.

The captain who led the soldiers for two weeks and led them to victory was beheaded, and his head was hung high on the gate of the castle.

"Hear me citizens. Not only this fool threw away food to the monsters, he was not able to prepare the defenses in advance so the city was heavily harmed. If it wasn't for this bastard the monsters would have never charged in like this, and the glorious knights would have arrived earlier as well."

One of the Earl's knight confidently declared.

"How can this be.....!"

The merchant knocked on Rendall's shoulder when he saw his shocked expression.

"This is how everything is. From the Earl's point of view, wouldn't he have to calm down the situation as fast as possible. It seems he is trying to relieve the rage of the citizens this way."

"But that man was a hero."

"It turns out he had a knight background."

"If he was a knight, isn't there all the more reason for him to be honored?"

"That's all in the past. Nowadays knights without a magic armors are as same as the expendable peace keeping police. Since all wars between the empires are determined by the magic armor."

This was the first time Rendall had seen a magic armor.

The actual number of magic armors was top secret, however it was known the Grateess empire had at least a thousand or so.

More than half of the amount was dispatched at the empire's main force, and there were considerable amount within the king's personal

army as well.

The rest of the armors that the nobles had weren't that many.

Earl Barad's family was also just barely able to borrow 5 magic armors through their resourcefulness.

"Forget about it. I don't know if there is justice in this world but the nobles are the law here."

Even after Rendall left the castle following the merchants, that day's event kept crawling into his mind.

There was a limit to how high commoners can climb, no matter how hard they tried.

"To have a stable life in this world..... Is this privilege only given to the nobles who own land and soldiers, or knights who ride the magic armor?"

Dawn Traveler – Chapter 11

Translated and Proofread by Zixacunx

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The Empire’s Divide

# Part 1

Jiss returned to the Elves' Forest after the dungeon exploration.

"My training was too lacking as of late. The body cannot be ignored even for a single day."

Rendall went towards the training area in the inner forest to train right away, and the dwarf Nedhand went straight to the forge.

"Hm. It seems I will have to work all night tonight."

His actual objective was not to make something at the forge, but rather drink all the beer he had bought from Ellim.

Jiss went with Hereseh to inspect the items they brought from the hunt.

"Hm. This magician Raven was a 5th circle magician."

The magician Hereseh inspected the relics.

From a grave robber's point of view, the sense of accomplishment came after discovering large sum of silver, gold and gems. However for him inspecting the leftover research was just as fulfilling.



Jiss was also able to observe the magic scrolls and the materials next to Hereseh.

"So he was a magician lesser than you, master."

"Just because you are of a higher circle, that does not necessarily mean you have a deeper understanding of magic. It seems Raven was a magician who studied earth magic. No wonder the cave was quite large."

"So are there any new discoveries in his research?"

"Earth magic is useful for everyday life in many ways. Finding wells, or making the land more fertile, such is possible with earth magic."

"But still, isn't earth magic unpopular amongst the magicians?"

"Yes. As there are many magic that are useful for people, there aren't many who primarily study earth magic. There isn't many offensive earth magic and it lacks efficiency, so it is not a very popular element. You also need formidable knowledge if you want to increase your earth magic mastery. On the other hand if the user can raise the circle high enough, the user can accomplish unimaginable things.... the magician can even cause earthquakes and destroy an entire castle. However seeing as he was only a 5th circle, I don't think such skills were within his reach yet."

Jiss was able to read Hereseh's mind at this moment.

– I was also in the 5th circle just a moment before. However since I am of the 6th circle.... I have become completely different from the past.

A 5th circle magician is typically respected anywhere he goes for his considerable skill.

They are able to teach beginner magicians at the magic tower, and are also given considerable compensation so that they can continue their own research.

They are also considered as powerful individuals amongst the mercenaries as well.

When a person reaches the 6th circle, the level of respect changes completely. Wherever the magician goes, he can receive a nobility status higher than the viscount.

Even at the magic tower, the magician receives endless compensation and are exempt from the responsibility of needing to teach others.

Hereseh sorted the research records, magic encyclopedia, and the earth magic books.

"It would be good even for you to read these earth magic books."

"But I am just barely learning the 2nd circle."

"Elementary earth magic does not require manipulating nature so it is all good knowledge to have. I will pick out the books around your level."

Jiss received 5 big fat books.

- Easy to memorize how to earth magic beginners guide.
- Breakdown of lasting destructiveness of earth magic.
- 12 characteristics of land that has been cursed.
- Records of deepest part of earth shaking.
- Records of how long it takes for earth to recover.

Just from looking at the titles of the books, they seemed significantly difficult.

The books weren't at a level a 12 year old could read, however Jiss had a combined life experience of a 24 year old.

Jiss opened a book next to a bonfire during nighttime.

"Hm. This would be cumbersome if it was just studying, but since I will be learning how to use earth magic from these books...."

In the clear and clean Elves' Forest, the dried branches burnt away.

Jiss sensed small curious animals coming by every once in a while to see what was going on.

– Easy to memorize how to earth magic beginners guide.

I, Raven, who loves earth magic, is leaving this record.

We humans live day to day not realizing how grateful we should be to the land.

The earth that does not desire for anything constantly provide us with endless supply of life force and .....

Jiss just skimmed over the introduction and flipped the papers.

The elemental guide had records of basic earth magic principles and mana and earth interaction.

Such as simple 2nd circle magic which made a wall using sand, or skills which dug through the land and brought up the water from the underground well below.

“Even just these magics will seem like a miracle to common folks.”

Powerful knights were relatively common but magicians were still worshiped by the commoners as bringers of miracles.

It is recorded in history that the beginner magicians 3000 years ago even paraded around as Gods.

It was then when the magic kingdom Alkasais was born.

However, even though it was the Alkhasais empire that set the foundation of the magic studies, the kingdom declined after the empire invented the magic armor.

The influence and power declined compared to when the kingdom was first born, however it is still considered as the hometown of magicians.

## Part 2

The daily life in the Elves' Forest was pretty much the same everyday.

When morning came, Jiss ate fruits from trees and bread knead from grains for breakfast.

"The fruit in this town is so delicious."

Jiss was at his happiest moment when he was eating fruit.

There were some bad parts not being to eat meat, however for the most part there was nothing to complain about food in the Elves' Forest.

Ripe fruits in the forest melted in the mouth like butter.

Not only the fruits were very sweet, they were also deliciously sour and released luscious aromas.

And the fruits that required to be grilled first contained unique savory flavor.

If you were to bring fruits from the real world, such as watermelons or peaches, even animals wouldn't eat them in the Elves' Forest.

"THIS is nature."

He filled his stomach with fruits that never even touched insecticides or dust.

Jiss's work for the day started after breakfast.

Morning run with Grona, physique training with Rendall, unique crafting lessons from Nedhand, and magic discussion with Hereseh.

After all this came the nighttime, and the archery lessons begin with Lishiansus.

The high elf who would be considered number one even in the entire continent.

That man's training surpassed all imagination.

"The best point of archery is, with it, you can attack all enemies in your field of vision."

Jiss asked a question after Lishiansus's statement.

"What if the enemy is behind cover?"

"Then you just need to make a curve shot."

"What if they block with a shield, or hide behind a wall?"

"Just penetrate it. Why do you think the arrowhead is for?"

Such were the teachings from Lishiansus.

"What if the enemy count is close to hundred?"

"How far are they?"

"Um, let's say 50 meters for example."

"That is nothing. Just fire the arrows before they come. You will just have to shoot about four each second."

"But there will still be enemies left afterwards?"

"You just have to penetrate four, five at a time."

"Keeuuk."

The unstoppable force, archer Lishiansus.

'Elvish talent surely is different. Though Lishiansus-nim is unique even amongst the high elves.'



He now understood why Nedhand squinted his eyebrows and stated 'they are ruining the beer flavor' just at the sight of an elf.

"This is difficult? Why can't you do it even though I showed you."

"I am not sure. If you can give me some explanations....."

"Watch carefully. You just have to observe and follow what I am doing. Easy yes?"

There were 45 elves learning archery from Lishiansus other than the human Jiss as well.

After learning archery from Lishiansus, it is said they are given the task to protect the forest for about a hundred years.

With their light bodies, the elves swiftly ran on top of the tree branches and were able to fire 3, 4 arrows in mid jump at a time.

To not fall behind the elves, Jiss tried his best during the archery training.

Due to the human physique being generally heavier than an elf's, he had to run as if he was going to die, even with the forest's breath.

Next to the training Jiss, there stood the history's most beautiful elf, Allium.

"You think you can do this too Jiss?"

"Of course. Too easy. But I am a little tired today so I will do it tomorrow."

As a man he did not want to show her his weak side.

Throughout the whole night he reflected upon the lessons, and caught up to the others by training from dawn.

"Try to catch me. Jiss!"

"Here I come."

The hide and seek with Allium was a like hurricane.

It was worlds different from a typical 'catch me if you can' couples played.

Allium was truly an innocent maiden.

To not get caught, she ran through the obstacles faster than the wind.

Jiss still had a body of a teenager, however his heart was devious.

'I am going to catch her. I am going to absolutely catch her!'

Due to the special characteristics of the Elves' Forest, within it, Allium far surpassed the speed a human could chase.

Allium, who only became farther even though Jiss was running as if he is going to die.

'Keeeuuk. I really wanted to catch her today!'

## Part 3

Churp churp~.

The clear bird noises.

It seems the Elves' Forest repeated the same cycle every day but this was not entirely true.

Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter.

As there were different seasons in the forest, animals also grew and migrated to different areas.

Rendall, Laurelle, Grona, Nedhand, Hereseh.

Everyone was solely intoxicated in their own training.

They analyzed the countless artifacts they found from the tombs, and they never showed negligence in their training, so they would be able to protect their bodies.

Jiss was also busy in his own way.

"It is not like I am going to be in the Elves' Forest for a thousand years,

so I better eat well while I am still here.”

Medicinal herbs were plentiful in the forest, where it was full of life force.

Amongst Hereseh’s books, Jiss used the book which well described the herbs that were beneficial to human bodies to find and eat as much as he can.

During his free time he ventured through the forest alone to find something to eat.

“Keeuhh. Even the herbs are different here. These are without a doubt the best. It pretty much wouldn’t get any more perfect if I had some sweet fruits and chicken right now.”

He also found herbs for injuries and poison treatment, dried them, and stored them as well.

Though Hereseh’s books, even if Jiss wasn’t an expert, he knew how to properly store herbs.

Even just the fact that a human was able to stay at the Elves’ Forest during the chaotic Grates civil war alone was amazingly preferential.

It was all thanks to the priestess Laurelle and the elven elder, however Jiss was still uneasy.

"It feels like we are living off a lease or renting. I better pack up as much as I can before we leave the forest."

Even in reality, it hasn't been much time since his parents bought an apartment through a loan.

He explored the the forest thoroughly as much as the anxiety he felt.

The sea of forest filled with the blue trees.

A beautiful scenery was something only a bard or a noble, who knew of romance, would want to sight see.

Jiss of course was the same.

"The deeper parts of the forest should have all sorts of herbs. I have to take care of my body now, so I will struggle less when I become old.

The side effects from the difficult training.

He treated the muscle fatigue and the mana depletion with the medicinal herbs.

Even though Jiss was young, he loved all medicinal herbs good for the body.

## Part 4

"Lal lala~"

Allium was walking in the forest early in the morning. The wind followed the rhythm of her voice and rustled the leaves, and the fairies danced.

Depending on their disposition, the elves can typically handle at least two or three kind of spirits.

The high elf Allium was able to summon the spirit of the wind, spirit of the water, spirit of the trees, spirit of the earth, spirit of the light, and the spirit of the fire.

Though the ability to summon many spirits did not necessarily make her powerful, there were definitely many pros.

Since in terms of magic, this was pretty much same as being able to use all elements.

"It would be great if Jiss was also able to handle the spirits. Hehehe."

A recent memory came to her mind.

Jiss asked her, what was her secret to being able to summon to many

spirits.

"Secret? But all I did was just become their friend?"

"Then is there an easy way to become friendly with them?....."

"Just friendly reach out your hand to the spirits."

"That is all?"

"Yup. You just have to become friends."

If there is a spirit master nearby, it is easier to become friendly with the spirits and learn how to summon them.

Jiss extended his finger towards the water spirit.

The spirit reacted instantly.

– Kyyaaaaaaaaak!

"Eung?"

– An evil human is bothering me!

" .... "



The water spirit that ran away after splashing a bucket of water on Jiss's face!

Looking back, it seemed Jiss was wronging the spirits when he played with the spirits Grona summoned as if they were toys.

Allium smiled brightly.

"It seems you don't have any affinity with the water spirits. Then I will summon the wind spirits for you."

"Okay. Even I think wind spirits will be fine."

Jiss reached out to the wind spirit that looked like a kid traveler with a cloak.

– Go away, you human!

The wind spirit summoned a gust in that instant and ran away after slapping Jiss in the face with the wind.

"You bastards!"

He was angry but he calmed himself since spirits were useful in many ways.

Magic was solely controlled by the user, however you had to ask the spirits for their assistance.

‘Calm down. Calm down and try again. If I give up just because I am angry, I will regret it for the rest of my life.’

This time a tree spirit was summoned.

However the spirit that resembled a tree branch swayed as if striking Jiss’s finger.

The earth spirit dug into the ground the second it was summoned and rejected Jiss right away.

The spirit of the fire showed a little different mannerism.

– Keeuuuu.

“Eung? Do you feel some friendliness towards me?”

– Keuureeeuuureuuu

“Yea. That’s cool. If you will accept me as your friend, from then, you can be my underling and my comrade.”

– Keuuuaaaakkk!

Whoooooosh

As Jiss neared his finger, the fire spirit released a fiery storm in all direction.

"It's dangerous!"

Allium yelled in concern.

Of course Jiss had already expected this and dodged the fire by rolling on the ground.

Even after Jiss was farther away, the fire spirit continued to release the flame.

"Ah. It seems I seriously have absolutely no affinity towards any spirits."

Jiss spoke in discouragement.

There were no other spirits left to summon either.

"Hehehe."

Allium who was thinking about the past, released a small satisfactory laughter.

Jiss's rotten expression was fresh and funny to look at for the elvish girl.

(Zix: Sadist alert.)

Other elvish parents typically do not allow their children to hang around with humans.

Human influence was dangerous for an elf.

This was because they would get bored living the quiet forest, and leave the forest just to face all different sorts of hardships.

- Humans are..... just one of many different animals.

- The race that destroys the forest and worships technology and magic. The children of God who has lost all nobility.

Elves did not value their race itself much highly. However Lishiansus's opinions differed from the other typical elves.

- Humans are clumsy and unskilled so they are fun to observe. Humans or elves, they are both immature. Only time will tell which of the two race will be the one to advance.

Typical lifespan of a high elf is 1000 years.

If they show interest in longevity like Jiss and consume healthy foods, they can live 200 to 300 more years.

Lishiansus also thought of living this long life doing nothing but taking care of small animals and the forest was foolish.

He believed it was important to explore the world and meet other races such as humans.

– Even though it hurts us sometimes, time is a medicine that cures our wounds. Even if you fall you can rise again, and weeds that never saw the sunlight also tend to be weak.

Lishiansus was planning to take Allium into the human world himself in the future, and tour around the human world together. He thought before that happened, it wouldn't be bad for her to know at least one human or so.

– Jiss. I'm also curious how he will turn out in 20 to 30 years or so.

Allium was also benign towards humans, due to Lishiansus's influence.

The first time she saw Jiss was when he was merely 6 years old. Now it had been 6 years she had spent with Jiss within the forest.

Allium collected the herbs Jiss was looking for before and smiled shyly.

"Later on.... When Jiss becomes a little older... Should I live about 100 years with him?" (Zix: Jiss you dawg.)

## Part 5

The war for the crown inheritance of the Gratesse empire!

The war that plunged the continent into chaos, finally began to reach its end.

The battle between the prime king candidate and the third prince impoverished the once fertile granaries, and destroyed advanced modern cities and great forts that once seemed like giant brick walls.

The fourth prince who lacked manpower tried to increase his forces by allying with the foreign countries, however negotiations failed and he lost his life.

As for the fifth prince Rognak, he had nothing but bad reputation floating within the mainstream.

"If there is a power struggle, he will definitely be the first to die."

"Allying with him would be same as suicide."

The empire's nobles rejected Rognak.

Many nobles also turned their backs on Rognak due to his violent nature.

Though Rognak had many faults in his personality, he was quick witted and knew how to handle people.

He accepted any skilled people with open arms, even if they were heinous.

“There is someone out there in the world that can be of my strength. Go find them. When I become the emperor, I will be able to grant them anything they desire.”

Rognak’s forces pulled in the Pleyisen race and the black magicians nobles feared and despised.

Though this move was hard to justify and lacked morality, in times of anarchy, power gave authority.

The moment civil war broke out, Rognak increased his forces by instilling fear into the citizens by destroying and setting fires to the surrounding cities.

The residents of the lands he conquered had no choice but to support Rognak out of fear.

The knights were also recruited by kidnapping their family members and using them as hostages.

Due to the three princes fighting over the crown, the empire’s national

power also dwindled.

"If I lose this opportunity..... I will never be able to escape from the shadow of the empire."

Then the declaration of independence from the Verkas duchy!

The Gratesse empire was too engulfed in its own civil war to send any forces to stop the Verkas duchy from breaking off.

Following the Verkas duchy, 17 more duchies broke off from the empire at the same time.

"We the Roin kingdom had to pay tributes of women, grain, and slaves to the Gratesse empire every year under their rule. From today, the Roin kingdom is free."

"The empire lost the right to rule over us. The treaty we held 170 years ago is now null."

"Destroy the empire's order!"

20 colonies also declared their independence.

The Gratesse empire grew weak as they even lost the colonies right next to their empire.



The magic armors which determined the force of the armies were destroyed, and the brave knights also lost their lives.

As they were previously depending on the colonies to provide them with supplies, now that the colonies declared their independence, the empire faced starvation.

The mannerisms of the other kingdoms changed as well.

"We can no longer allow the Grateess empire the right to rule the continent."

"Now is the time to satisfy our hatred of 300 years."

Invasion from the neighboring kingdoms!

This was an event unimaginable for the Grateess empire just 10 years ago.

With the empire's great army and the knights, they were able to transform any kingdom into a field of ashes with the power of the magic armors.

But now, the Grateess empire's army was in shambles and there was no leadership in place to stop the invasion.

The king candidate, the third prince, and the fifth prince now delayed mobilizing their forces, and tried to position themselves in an

advantageous position in the civil war.

"The empire is finished. Even the family's livelihood will no longer be safe if we stay here."

The year Jiss became 13 years old, countless nobles fled the empire to different kingdoms.

This was because even if someone would actually become the emperor at this point, it would be difficult to deal with all the problems.

"I am better than my elder brother in every way, the only difference is he was born earlier than I was..... Our quarrel ended up destroying the empire!"

The third prince started a new kingdom named Heron by the West with his supporters.

"Kuheuuheuu. If it was going to turn out this way in the end. What fools."

The fifth prince took part of south and created a new kingdom called Keudon in the east.

"The time has come. Let us wipe out the foolish and dirty royal blood from this world!"

Duke Anchulen united the rest of the southern land, Rognak was unable

to conquer.

The royalty of the northeastern land, who were tired of the civil war, also united under the new kingdom Nerumis.

The Grateess empire who once ruled the Marka continent had fissioned.

"Ah.... the glorious empire has fallen due to childish actions."

Even until the end the prime king candidate protected the heart of the empire and tried to retain the core system, however his forces was not even one fifth of the original force of the empire.

The small split kingdoms enthusiastically involved themselves in international affairs to enforce national power, however due to their relationships being awful, there were nothing but endless quarrels.

The Grateess empire now being nothing but a name, the nearby kingdoms began to invade other nations since they no longer had a ruler.

## Part 6

The Rendall family was not harmed in any way thanks to hiding in the elves forest.

"I did not realize the civil war was going to explode to this level of proportions. It was good that we decided to hide in the forest."

"You're right. Though I guess you can say the war opened up some opportunities as well."

The population of knights decreased due to the war.

There was an abundance of nobles who sided with the wrong faction and faced extermination.

Due to the fall of law and order, many noble graves or stashes have become unprotected.

There were also countless mages that were forced into the front line, thus many dungeons and laboratories were also somewhere unprotected.

These were heart throbbing times for grave robbers.

Rendall grouped with Hereseh, Nedhand, and Grona to have a group meeting.

"This is an opportunity that won't appear for another several hundred years." (Rendall)

"Em. I feel the same way. It wouldn't even be exaggerated to say the continent's treasures are laid out in the open for the picking." (Hereseh)

"Not just us but how long can Jiss live only hanging around amongst the elves? Elves are peaceful but they lack sociability. And I am not only saying this because I want to drink beer." (Nedhand)

The group decided to leave to the outside world.

This was the most optimum time to hunt tombs, and it seemed the peace was going to last for a bit even though it was still a little dangerous.

Of course, Rendall thought deeply for long before making the final decision.

If safety was the only concern, it was great to stay in the Elves' Forest.

According to the elves tens of thousands of refugees roamed the lands, and it was a time where life held very little value.

People dying or going missing was a common event.

Just because the war had ended, that did not mean this level of chaos

would just subside within a day.

But they had to leave since it had already been seven years in the Elves' Forest, and they couldn't afford to live away from society any longer.

"Then let us return to Terace." (Rendall)

"I wonder if our place in Terace is still intact." (Hereseh)

"If it is collapsed, then we can just rebuild it sir." (Rendall)

"I Nedhand shall demonstrate some skills. I will have to make the new basement bigger than the last as well."

Rendall's family, Nedhand and Hereseh packed their baggage.

As they were living the Elves' Forest, there was nothing much to pack.

As the trading routes reopened with the end of the civil war, they decided to move back into Terace with the traders.

– Jiss will keep have to training his swordsmanship even when we return to Terace.

Rendall, as usual, was very interested in Jiss's training regime.

– I wonder if Mrs.Misha who used to bake us bread is still there?

Rasboa's daughter must have grown up well right? I am going to bring many perfumes made from the flowers as gifts.

As a woman, Laurelle had many items to pack.

– I am curious what type of magic the Terrace magicians are interested in nowadays. They will be shocked when they hear of my ascension to the 6th circle. I must get to the city quickly. Research materials, and journals, there is much I must purchase.

Hereseh's interests were filled with nothing but magic.

Ever since he reached the 6th circle, his passion for truth and research burned even stronger.

– I guess I will go to the Gotu mountain and relax with the dwarves there. Lots of beer I shall drink.

Nedhand was looked forward to drinking beer with his dwarven brethren.

Grona did not have much interest in moving.

After she was released from being a laboratory slave, the only family she had were Rendall, Laurelle, and Jiss.

That is why she decided to follow wherever the Rendall Family went.

"Em. I guess I will have to say my goodbyes to Allium."

Jiss walked around and said his goodbyes to the elves she often saw as the village.

"Human. Be well."

– He is leaving.

"Let there be clouds and breeze to ease your travels."

– I guess I won't be seeing him again.

"Eat these fruits of the Pao tree in your travels."

– I was going to throw these out because they tasted bad. I guess I will give it to him.

"Eeerah. These bastards."

The coldhearted loveless elves!

Most elves spend their long life within the forest alone and live one with the nature.

So most elves have hard time sharing rapport with humans.



"It seems the time has come for us to go our separate ways even though there is still much archery left for you to learn.

Lishiansus was regretful he was not able to teach Jiss anymore.

– I was unable to train him properly because he was still young, how regretful. The real training would have truly began from now on. The last bastard that I taught even begged to be killed instead.

"You have finished the basics, so continue to practice consistently. Even if you have no talent, with time you will become skillful."

"Yessir!"

Jiss answered with conviction.

It is not easy to get used to the pain of departure. However being able to read the minds of others eased his pain a bit.

– City Terrace if I remember correctly. The next time I visit the human world, I will definitely have to visit this brat.

Jiss felt glad to know Lishiansus was actually sad to see his departure. The day of their reunion shall come one day.

-Ah, I will also have to teach him the techniques I was not able to teach him yet. He is not quite mature enough but he should be quite different

when we meet again.

Jiss also looked forward to that day deeply.

Lishiansus's interests only dwelled in swordsmanship and archery.

The man who spent hundreds of years training, will be able to find much happiness in the future to witness his disciple's growth.

'I know I have to say something but.... what should I say?'

Jiss finally met with Allium after some hesitations.

"Do you have to leave the forest now?"

"Ya. I must go with my parents."

"But I heard the human world is dangerous....."

"Well danger is everywhere."

The 13 year old Jiss tried his best to look cool. His opponent, the elvish beauty who surpassed 140 years of age.

From a man's point of view, race meant nothing in the face of beauty.

"You must be safe."

"Don't worry. I won't die on you."

"Don't get hurt. I am going to visit you later."

"Okay."

"You are going to play doctor with me again next time we meet right?"

"Ye.....ah."

Jiss felt guilty as if he had taught something bad to the elf who was filled with nothing but innocence.

# Dawn Traveler – Chapter 12

Translated and Proofread by Zixacunx

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## Operation Start

# Part 1

The day of the Rendall family's departure.

Most elves did not care of their departure but Allium came to see them off with tears falling from her eyes.

"Kid. You will be able to see her again someday. Let's go."

They first set their course to their house in Terace.

After stopping by Ellim to buy some horses, they passed by the cities that were nothing but cinder.

With all inhabitants and the living dead, the city was filled with countless crows and feral dogs.

Nedhand clicked his tongue with disapproval.

"The aftermath of the war is truly distressful. I don't understand how humans can so easily kill their own brethren."

Rendall also felt a little distress in his heart. Even though he has experience participating in wars, seeing dead civilians and torn down cities was difficult to see.

"It seems inventing the magic armor.... actually brought more plight to the world when it was without it."

As walls no longer provided proper defenses due to the existence of the magic armors, cities were destroyed easily.

Though monster extermination became easier thanks to the magic armors, for the common folks life became only more difficult

There were corpses lying around everywhere.

"Just a moment please."

Laurelle got off her horse and went towards the corpses.

"May you abandon your hardships and return to the loving embrace of the Goddess."

Laurelle prayed the ceremonial prayers for the deceased.

The foul smelling corpses miraculously became clean and dispersed into the earth.

Though her actions were good, there were simply too many corpses on the way to Terrace.

Rendall made a troubled expression as Laurelle continued to send off

the diseased.

"It seems we will be a little late due to the number of corpses. As it won't be easy to stop her."

"It shouldn't matter if we are a little late to Terace. Without properly sending off the dead, a pandemic can break out in the vicinity, also the black mages will defile the dead for the sake of their experiments."

Like the other magicians, Hereseh had a strong animosity towards the black magicians.

Black magicians take any actions necessary if it will grant them more power.

They give a bad name to all the other magicians, and even caused some magic towers to break down.

Thankfully, Terace was not damaged at all from the wall and was in perfect condition.

"Halt. Your identifications?"

"We are mercenaries sir. We also have a priestess in the mix."

"If that is the case you may all pass."

Having a priestess was like having an universal passport.

They were granted safe passage by the guards and safely arrived at their home.

Part 2 <Old Goods Exchange>

Rendall's family had an antique shop.

Of course not as their core business but as a camouflage shop!

If you spend money in the city but don't have a job, anyone would get suspicious.

Silver candle holders, silver spoons, gold rings, gold necklaces, painting that is hundreds of years old and antique vases.

They sold these goods to nobles or merchants who desired such goods.

There was no way the business was going to be good, but for the Rendall family it was good that there weren't many customers.

As Hereseh also sold magic goods in front of the store, this alone generated enough revenue to repel any suspicions from the residents.

Nedhand was a dwarf to the core. All dwarves are at the least talented in blacksmithing.



Just by visiting a forge every once in a while, when he was bored, and refining the goods other blacksmiths made, he was able to earn himself some spending money.

Though in reality, the expenses from drinking beer with the other blacksmiths far outweighed the income.

Rendall opened the door enthusiastically.

"It seems quite a bit of dust and spiderwebs collected after leaving this place alone for a while."

"We also have many things we need now that we left the forest."

"Let's go shopping first."

Rendall, Laurelle, Hereseh, and Nedhand were all each busy doing their own things, buying goods, gathering information, or meeting other dwarves.

Just as the continent was still in chaos, there was just as much opportunity as a grave robber. Places heavily damaged by the war, places once inaccessible to the nobles' armies were now accessible.

"Ah~. Allium....."

Even after arriving home, all Jiss could think about was Allium.

He did not realize it when he was able to see her often, but now he knew after coming to Terace.

"So Allium is my first love."

Their age gap was a little over 120 years.

It did not matter she of was of a different race. All girls were allowed if they were beautiful.

Allium's image kept on popping into Jiss's mind.

## Part 3

Jiss rested a little bit after arriving to his hometown then walked around the city by himself.

"Back then these roads seem so wide, now it just seems normal. I guess it is because I have grown greatly living the Elves' Forest."

Just as Jiss said, he was but a brat when he was last at the city.

Back then he was not allowed to wander about the city himself without his parents, due to the unstable police infrastructure.

"Euukeehet. Selling ripe apples here."

"If you need weapons, won't you give me a visit? If it is going to protect your life, it doesn't feel wasteful to use an expensive weapon."

The scene of Ferikeh race doing business was the same as usual.

Regretfully, Jiss was completely broke. This was because there was no need for him to have any allowance in the Elves' Forest.

"It seems people are even more busy since the war had just ended. There are more people than usual as well."

Though Terrace was mostly unharmed from the civil war, many cities were in dire situation for rapid reconstruction.

There were many laborers and merchants working hard for the sake of recovery.

Although the previous center of the continent, the Gratesse empire, was broken up, by utilizing the long stockpiled resources, the cities were carrying out reconstruction.

Before when Gratesse empire was in power, there was no need for tall walls for the cities as the nearby kingdoms feared the Gratesse empire.

However with the Gratesse empire now broken into 5 kingdoms, each kingdom prepared for future war, all with the goal of reunification.

As each of the 5 kingdoms prepared for war, the atmosphere within the continent was uneasy to say the least.

The costs for magic armor users went up substantially, as well as the costs for magicians, mercenaries, and knights.

It was in everyone's best interest to be careful, until one true order was once again in place.

"It seems our house is just as it was like before..... and it looks like there is no way I can get lost in here."

The stores in the markets were also just as they were before.

However he noticed new unique restaurants have opened due to the war.

Because there were nothing but nutritious fruits and roots in the Elves' Forest, just from the smell of food, Jiss's mouth watered.

Of course he was able to eat pizza, chicken, and hamburger in the other world, but the food of this world also had different flavors.

Fresh meat and fruits.

In the Marka continent, all flavors of food is also infused with the life force of the ingredient.

"But that bastard is also exactly the same."

Jiss looked far into the sky.

Something large was flying swiftly in the clear sky.

The tyrant Isla!

The emperor of the sky searched for prey with his fierce eyes.

Even though Jiss and Isla were far away from each other, their eyes met.

Then, once again in a long time, Jiss read Isla's mind.

– That thing looks delicious. That is the perfect age with the best consistency, truly a good age to eat.

"Yup. It really feels like I returned."

Even Isla who looked at him with hungry eyes was same as before.

## Part 4

When the night came, each adults who were at the dwarven streets, information guild, and with the neighborhood ladies regathered.

Strong alcohol smell leaked from Nedhand.

“Burp~. None of my friends died and they were all perfectly safe and sound. They told me business was very good due to the demand of swords and armor rising from the civil war. Since dwarven craftsmanship is respected everywhere. If this was going to be the case, I would have not gone to the Elves’ Forest either.”

It was easy to tell how much Nedhand drank with his brethren he hasn’t seen in a while. However telling a dwarf that he was drunk was a big offense.

The one thing you should never tell the prideful dwarves, is that they are drunk.

“First, I would like us to look at this.”

Rendall spread the newly purchased map on the table.

It marked the new nations, new borders, safe roadways, and monster habitats.

Of course traveling while trusting a map completely is same as suicide. However it didn't hurt to have this information.

"As you can see from the map, the Earl Ronoba who use to be nearby has deceased."

"Hooh. Even just before we left for the forest, he had considerable amount of forces under his belt."

Hereseh showed great interest.

He went to the mercenary magician meeting, however he was not able to find any of his friends in the city.

Either they were traveling, or they were unable to return after being used by the nearby nobles.

There were also some that died serving a noble in the civil war.

Hereseh did not reveal in the magician's meeting that he was now of the 6th circle.

A skill is not something that just disappears anyways, and he just needed to carry out a simple demonstration and he would be respected anywhere as a mercenary magician.

"Yes. Though the earl once had a strong grasp on that territory, after the civil war it has become a giant graveyard, a field for the dead."



"There is no interest for the common dead, is there a ruin or a noble's grave in that area?"

"As you know Robona earl's heritage is of a short one. Due to this reason there shouldn't be much grand noble graves there."

They discussed the possible grave hunt candidates after opening up the map.

In the Grateess empire alone, there were 1700 nobles who had their own castle.

Due to the civil war around 300 castles were brought down and about 200 castle changed their owners.

This was a time of opportunity for tomb robbers.

The Kudon empire was dangerous to even enter due to the Pleyisen race, however there were still plenty of other places to rob graves.

Nedhand frowned after glancing over the map.

"To think even the city of freedom Miten has fallen, the scale of the war was truly gargantuan after all."

Miten used to be a city that attracted tens of thousands merchants and travelers.

Ruled by the Mered family, it was once revered as the trading and cultural center of the empire. However there was now an X on the map where the city used to be, which signified that the city was no more.

With large monsters wandering the area, traders now had to take long detour away from the destroyed city.

"It seems the areas by the newly formed borders suffered the most. Even though we lack significant intel about the Kudon kingdom, it seems it is quite difficult to live in that area."

"Em. One time I had to run away after failing to rob earl Postera's grave, I still remember the taste of the wine the farmhouse lady treated me while I was hiding in the barn-house."

"The Grateess empire as we used to know is no more. Though this can be considered the greatest time for grave robbers, it will be just as dangerous if we get caught by any soldiers."

Past or present, grave robbing is one of the highest condemned crime in the continent.

If one were to be caught robbing a grave of a knight or a noble, the punishment was execution without trial.

Not just the robbers but their entire families lost their head.

Grave robbers absolutely had to be weary of the eyes of knights and soldiers.

"Still, since we finally came back to the world, we have to go look for work."

"Of course sir. There should be usable items anywhere we go."

In the face of such rare opportunity, Rendall aimed for a big operation.

"What do you think of going to Marquis Pedrobe's area?"

Marquis Pedrobe used to be one of the top commanders of the Grateess empire.

He used to hold an army bigger than a typical medium sized kingdom.

However due to the civil war, he was defeated by Nedro, who is now the king of the newly found Heron kingdom.

"The more the history the family has, they should have just as much treasure. As monsters are active around the area, there shouldn't be much people there and we will just have to quietly enter and leave the area."

"Estimated operation time?"

"If we want to properly plan and carry out the operation, we will need about a month's time. For the actual mission we will need to finish within 10 days to avoid danger. Monsters should be still attracting all the attention even by the time we are done with the operation."

"Em..."

Hereseh and Nedhand meditated in their thoughts.

There was still pressure of invading a former marquis's land. No matter how skilled they were as grave robbers, if they were caught it was all over.

Even though Hereseh had reached the 6th circle, he had not completely mastered the 6th circle yet.

Marquis must have had a large amount of magicians and countless knights under his command, so danger level was very high.

Jiss still had no vote in the matter, and had to follow wherever Rendall and Laurelle went.

Nedhand voiced his opinion with much difficulty.

"Well, we will just have to rob the place perfectly. We won't have such a chance a second time."

Hereseh also agreed with Nedhand.

“It will also be very regretful if we pass on such opportunity. Since we can’t learn everything here, let us first go to the Marquis’s land. After surveying the area, let us clean up the place if the situation allows us so.”

Rendall and Laurelle planned the operation time in their calendar.

They decided if the Marquis’s land was inaccessible, they would visit other sites on the return trip.

Not even one day had passed since they had returned to Terace, and they had left the city again.

## Part 5

Guuuaaaaaaak!!!

As they heard the roar of the tyrant Isla, the group also traveled farther and farther away from Terace.

"The roar is always chilling."

"I agree. Seeing as it is looking at us without contempt, it must already be pretty full right now."

Nedhand and Grona shared a little interest concerning Isla.

Anyone who lived or visited Terace knew about the infamous Isla.

Typical normal wyverns do not wander around a city occupied with many people.

However for some unknown reason, Isla flew around the city and ate the monsters that approached it.

Wyverns being one of the most dangerous monsters, knights and magicians were many times released to exterminate Isla but all the attempts ended up as failures.

It wasn't difficult for a wyvern to climb a wall to escape, and wyverns typically did not care much about their nests.

However after the extermination squads disband, the wyvern becomes angry and begins to ambush nearby residents and merchants.

They also tried to set traps by hiring archers and magicians, however the wyvern detected and avoided the traps like a ghost.

And as the wyvern dodged all spells fired at it from the land, Isla was a very difficult opponent to hunt down.

Even the continent's most famous hunters refused to hunt Isla.

Thankfully after more than a dozen attempts to hunt the wyvern, it also stopped ambushing people to avoid confrontation.

Additionally with the fall of the Gratesse empire, no one had the leisure or the resources to hunt Isla.

– Food is getting farther away. Short ones are not delicious. They are also difficult to chew if they are wearing iron.

It was very advantageous that Jiss could read Isla's mind.

Not just Isla, but being able to read the minds of monsters before entering dangerous places were extremely helpful.

To avoid leaving a trace, the group went through the mountains after leaving the city Terace.

Even though there were other mercenaries on the road, they had to be extra careful since their target was Marquis Pedrobe.

Though it is difficult to find out who is the grave robber, it was still possible to be tracked down.

They were even wearing fake mercenary badges with different names.

Grona observed the footprints and wheel marks on the floor.

"It seems like these belong to a merchant or a traveler."

"\*Cheh. They must have been weary because the war just ended. They would be able to live without worry if they cherished people of their own race like dwarves."

Rendall laughed after hearing Nedhand's statement.

"Though on the other hand, many dwarves are found dead at the liquor store."

"It's fine if you die while drinking. After all it exists so we can drink it until the day we die."



After leaving the city, the group always had to be on guard.

With the current state of the continent in shambles, the group was susceptible to be ambushed by monsters or bandits at any moment.

However with Grona's skillful tracking and eyesight, they were able to reach the marquis's territory without any trouble.

Rendall opened up the map after the group had a simple meal.

"There is a small fort here. We can take a detour but.... It would be useful to check out what kind of condition it is in. It will also be useful to know for our return trip just in case. Grona. We will need your help."

"Yes. Absolutely."

"I will go too."

Grona and Jiss went forward and acted as reconnaissance.

Though Jiss was not able to completely follow the light footedness of the special trait of the dark elves, he had more than enough skills to act as reconnaissance.

As they covertly moved through the forest, they approached the fort.

"That place is the Braden fort. Can you also see it Jiss-nim?"

"It seems it was destroyed and is in very pitiful condition. Magic armors must have been used there. Hm, I really want one."

Grona and Jiss hid behind the bushes and observed the fort.

"But it seems weird."

"Huh?"

"I can smell blood."

The fort's gate and the walls were completely destroyed.

"But the civil war should have ended months ago."

"You right. On top of that Marquis Lebode's war even ended a year ago. But the smell of blood is still extremely strong here."

There are countless scents in the forest.

Due to that reason it is difficult to pinpoint a scent in the forest.

Not only there was mana flowing everywhere in this world, it was not an easy thing to pinpoint a single sensation.

However if an elf says he or she smelled something, it was definite.

The elvish race had a keen sense of smell that rivaled a well trained hunting dog.

Of course dwarves also held pride in being able to distinguish the smell of countless different liquors.

Dwarves were able to tell if a beer went flat without even looking and didn't even reach out to the flattened drink.

"Should we go tell my parents?"

"Let's go a little closer. While still maintaining a safe distance."

Grona and Jiss took out their bows and slowly closed in to the fort.

It is very difficult for a typical patrol to detect the dark elf Grona who was utilizing tree branches and leaves as camouflage.

However there were no patrols even when they closed in to the fort.

"It seems there are no patrols here."

"But that can't be. Fort Braden acts as the main gate of the marquis's territory and plays an important role of keeping the monsters at bay. Even if it was destroyed, there is no way soldiers wouldn't be dispatched here."

Though Jiss shared what he had studied prior to the operation, he agreed with Grona in his mind.

One's senses becomes more acute after living in the Elves' Forest.

The strong smell of blood also signaled something terrible must have happened recently.

"Stay here. I will be right back."

Grona ran towards the fort by herself.

It is difficult to spot a dark elf, who makes no noise while stepping and blends in with the shadows.

She moved at a speed beyond human logic, and the sound was practically undetectable even if you were to focus.

Jiss was already reading Grona's mind and already had an idea what was happening at the fort.

– How horrible. They are all dead.

There were nothing left but corpses at the fort Braden.

To make matters worse, these were corpses of people who were killed

by swords, spears, magic armors and so on.

Jiss already saw plenty of corpses in the past, however this was still not sight good to look at.

Long after a while, Rendall, Hereseh, Nedhand, and Laurelle also approached the fort.

"The trace left behind seem to belong to a knight who is quite skilled. I wonder if a battle occurred here."

Rendall, who was very experienced in this field of work, explained after taking a quick glance at the surroundings.

"An official army recently attacked this area. There were no official news so it couldn't have been the Heron kingdom, looking at the patterns on the soldier's armors.... it seems this was the works of earl Mollota."

Marquis Pedrobe boasted of his great relations with rival families. However the problem was the marquis himself lost his life in the civil war.

Not only the family's influence lessened, the person who had the authority to choose the next heir was hiding within the castle walls.

At this moment of weakness, earl Mollota gathered his forces and marched to steal his nephew's land.

Nedhand brushed his beard that had grew long during the travels.

"Either way that means this is a battlefield."

"Yes. It seems it will be dangerous, should we return?"

Grona wished to operate elsewhere.

She didn't want Jiss to be involved in anything dangerous. She can project Jiss with her skills with preparation within a dungeon, however a battlefield was different.

This was because humans were potentially much scarier than traps or monsters.

Hereseh voiced his opinion.

"I believe this will actually make our operation more convenient. The grave of the marquis we are trying to rob is distanced away from the important cities or castles. Battle shouldn't reach all the way to the grave sight."

The plan was to rob the grave while the families were busy fighting.

"Em. It does seem dangerous but..... returning after coming all the way here would also be regretful...."

Nedhand looked at Rendall, unable to make a decision.

Rendall was not only the core of the group but the leader. His shoulders were heavy as he was often burdened with the important responsibilities.

Rendall meditated in his thoughts for a moment.

– We can return to Terrace but.... As Hereseh-nim stated, the grave sight is considerably far away from the battlefield. The number of patrol in that area must have decreased as well.

Since earl Mollota most likely came to take over the marquis's family entirely, it was also unlikely he would send any of his forces to the grave sight.

Rendall nodded his head.

"Okay. Let us quickly move avoiding the border as much as possible. If we cannot safely cross the border, we will turn back right away. Grona."

"Yes."

"It can get dangerous if we stay too long, so instead we will just dig the site for 2 days time. Also when we arrive at the sight, please continue to scout the area instead of entering the grave with us."

"Okay, I understand."

"Jiss. Carry Hereseh-nim on your back. From now on, we are going to

move stealthily and quietly.”

Rendall carried Laurelle on his back, and Jiss took care of Hereseh.

Even though magicians themselves did not weigh much, they were tough leather clothing and carried toms and magic ingredients in their satchel.

This meant Rendall had considered Jiss’s running and physical abilities very high.

In reality Jiss had plenty of mana within the body as well, so it wouldn’t even be a problem to climb a mountain with Hereseh on his back.

As for Nedhand, even though he had short legs, he was a dwarf so he naturally had strong physical attributes.

“Let us go.”

Grona lead the way with her wide field of vision.

Hereseh prepared to activate offensive magic at any moment, and Jiss readied his bow.

‘Looks like I may have to shoot arrows today.’

This was the first time he could have an actual confrontation, so he was



filled with anxiety and adrenaline.

However, he decided he will not hesitate if the moment came because he'd rather not see his comrades get hurt.

"Soldiers are moving far in front of us. There is considerable distance between us but let's wait a moment until they move away."

Grona swiftly covered a large area and secured safe passage for the group.

– The marquis's forces are weaker than expected. It looks like we will win this battle easily. It seems earl Mollota's territory will increase substantially.

– Can't wait until it is time to pillage the city. It's been awhile since I've got to see any women due to training.

– It will be time for looting once the battle at the central castle is over. Even if they try to endure, since our preparation is solid, we should win no matter what.

As the soldiers of Mollota crossed the land, like a swarm of ants, Jiss read their thoughts.

Jiss was always able to acquire valuable information without talking to anybody else.

'All soldiers should be gathering by the central castle since there is where the battle is.'

Without critical thinking or clear decision making skills, one cannot become a magician.

It was exactly as Hereseh had stated.

There was the family cemetery at the valley of the Mokaret mountain.

Mollota family's legacy reaching all the way back to the infancy of the Grateess empire, the location of the family grave was in the middle of nowhere.

With Grona acting as the scout, the party was able to safely arrive at the site.

"There is a security checkpoint. But there is nobody guarding it. Looking at the tracks, it seems no one has been here for months."

Due to the severe damages from the civil war, it was difficult to station dozens of guards just to guard a cemetery.

Even now due to the battle by the central castle, all the soldiers had relocated there.

If there were guards at the checkpoint they would have had to infiltrate into the cemetery, however there was no need for that.

"We better finish quickly and leave this area."

Hereseh lead the way with his staff in hand.

"Dispel!"

There were several spells that reacted when invaded at the Marquis's cemetery.

The removal of such spells marked the beginning of the grave robbing!

Crumble Crumble.

Three big lights shined by the closed Marquis's grave, as the 6th circle magician Hereseh casted his dispel magic.

The magician who casted the trap spells were of high level as well, but magic power weakened as time flew by.

Not to mention Hereseh was an expert in trap magic removal.

"It seems it's my turn."

Nedhand walked forward with a pickaxe and a small shovel in his hands.

It was his job to create a pathway into the sealed tomb.